



KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL

WALL OF REMEMBRANCE

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Review Submission
National Capital Memorial
Advisory Commission (NCMAC)
Meeting Date: February 11, 2020

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N
VICINITY MAP

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Summary

This project proposes the addition of a Wall of Remembrance to the Korean War Veterans Memorial. This memorial, constructed in 1995, is located to the south east of the Lincoln Memorial on the National Mall.

About ten years ago, the KWVM Foundation started an effort to honor the servicemen who did not return. The 114th Congress passed Public Law #230 authorizing a Wall of Remembrance at the memorial and it was signed into law by President Obama in October 2016. There are approximately 44,574 killed in action (KIAs) from the Korean War; this number includes the approximately 7,900 missing in action (MIAs). These killed and missing service members will be remembered by the proposed Wall of Remembrance to be added to the existing Korean War Veterans Memorial.

We anticipate that the design and approval process will be ongoing through 2020. Construction will begin in April of 2021 and the Memorial, including the new Wall of Remembrance, will reopen on July 27, 2022.



Existing Conditions

The Korean War Veterans Memorial is a contributing site to the National Mall Historic District and is also within the boundaries of the East and West Potomac Parks Historic District. Both districts are listed in the National Register of Historic Places and in the DC Inventory of Historic Sites.

The existing memorial is described by the National Park Service as follows:

The Korean War Veterans Memorial is a tribute to the perseverance and solidarity of the many Americans, and people from other nations, who sacrificed and served for the cause of freedom and the defense of the Republic of South Korea. The memorial is a vivid and enduring expression of America’s gratitude.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial was authorized on October 28, 1986 to honor members of the United States Armed Forces who served in the Korean War. On September 16, 1988, Congress approved the present site of the Memorial. That decision placed the Memorial adjacent to the Lincoln Memorial, directly across the Reflecting Pool and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. In 1989 a design developed by a group of architects from State College, Pennsylvania was selected from a national design competition. In 1991 the Army Corps of Engineers officially selected Cooper-Lecky Architects in Washington, D.C. to develop and complete the project. Frank Gaylord of Barre, Vermont was selected as the sculptor for the 19 stainless steel ground troopers in the composition; Louis Nelson Associates of New York City, was selected to develop the etched granite mural; Henry Arnold of Princeton, New Jersey was the landscape architect.

The Memorial has two components, a triangular Field of Service and a Pool of Remembrance. In the Field, 19 battle-clad foot soldiers advance toward the flag. A polished granite wall reflects the scene, intermingling the soldiers with etched faces of supporting forces. The over 2,500 faces are taken from archival photographs, making the mural representative of all who served. The names of the 22 nations who supported the United Nations’ actions are etched on a low curb. Beyond the flagpole, a grove of linden trees surrounds the circular Pool of Remembrance, which provides a setting for quiet reflection. Inscribed at its focal point, below the American flag, is the underlying message of the Memorial: “Our nation honors her sons and daughters who answered the call to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met.”¹

Additional elements of the existing memorial include a low granite curb that defines an interior edge of the pool which lists the number of the casualties (dead, captured, wounded) from the war for both the United States and the United Nations. Opposite that curb are the words “Freedom is not Free” inscribed on the tall granite wall face that extends into the Pool of Remembrance.

Enabling Legislation

In October 2016, Congress authorized a Wall of Remembrance “at the site of the Korean War Veterans Memorial.”² The legislation authorized the Wall of Remembrance to “list the names of the members of the Armed Forces of the United States who died in the Korean War.”³ It also authorized the inclusion of additional information about the Korean War, including “the number of members of the Armed Forces of the United States, the Korean Augmentation to the United States Army (KATUSA), the Republic of Korea Armed Forces, and the other nations of the United Nations Command.”⁴ All of this information has been integrated into the proposed design.

1 National Park Service Pamphlet, 1995
2 P.L. 114-230, 130 Stat. 947, October 7, 2016
3 P.L. 114-230, §2(a)(2)(A)
4 P.L. 114-230, §2(a)(3)



Pool of Remembrance



Plaza and benches under linden tree grove



Soldiers in the Field of Service

Design Concept

The goal of adding the Wall of Remembrance is to remember the missing and killed in action by adding their names to the Memorial. In developing the concept for the Wall, we had numerous other guiding principles:

- 1. Maintain the integrity of the original Memorial design
- 2. Minimize the impact of the proposed wall as viewed from adjacent mall areas
- 3. Incorporate the new wall as if it had been part of the original design
- 4. Limit the area of names to less than the name area on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (VVM)

To address principle #4 above, a series of calculations and studies were completed. Based on the tabulation of the granite area and corresponding area of names at the VVM, we determined that the wall area utilized for names at the Wall of Remembrance should be less than 2,600 square feet. All design alternatives that were pursued met this criterion. The proposed design utilizes 7/16” high letters with text arranged in 5’-0” tall columns with 5 columns on each 3’-8” wide panel. With this layout, approximately 102 panels will be needed to list all the names of the fallen and necessitates at least 380 linear feet of wall length. These considerations were made through consultations with the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation but may be adjusted pending receipt of the final list of names (to be provided by the Department of Defense).



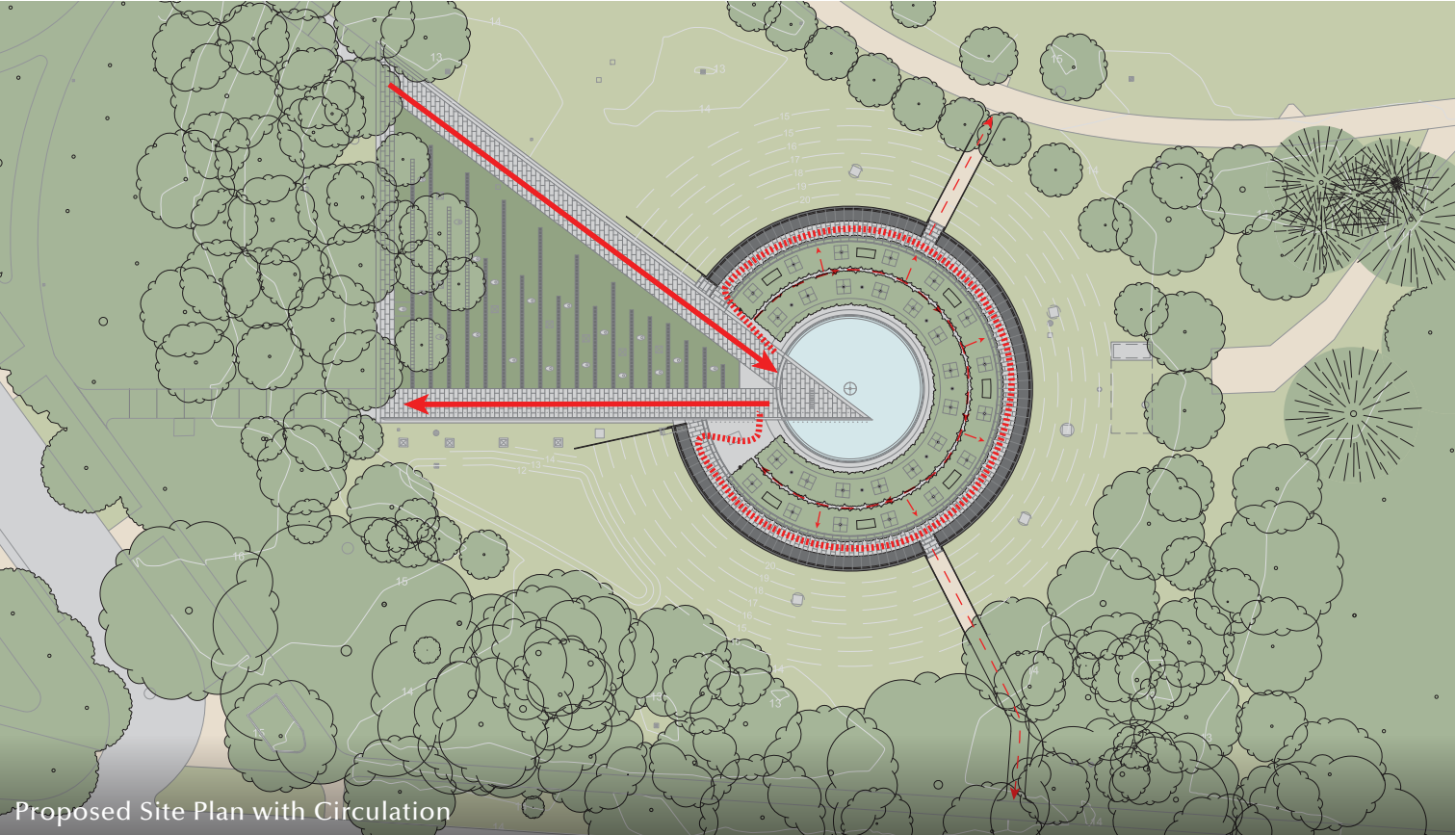
Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance - Surface Area Analysis

DESCRIPTION	WALL LENGTH	WALL AREA	TEXT AREA	PERCENTAGE OF TEXT
Vietnam Veterans Memorial	493'-6"	3,003	2,613	87%
1/2" high letters, 3'-4" wide panels, 144 panels* with running text				
Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance Proposed Design	389'-0"	2,140	1,945	91%
7/16" high letters, 3'-8" wide panels, 5'-0" tall columns - 5 per panel, 102 panels				

*Wall height of Vietnam Veterans Memorial varies.

In addition to the four guiding principles listed above, we desire to provide a better edge to the circle of paving around the Pool of Remembrance, currently defined by a post and chain fence and two rows of barberry shrubs. Another consideration is to formally incorporate the “desire lines” of pedestrian travel from the Memorial to Ash Road and to Independence Avenue.

The proposed design provides a low, angled wall surrounding the original memorial. Leaving the existing memorial intact, the paving around the Pool of Remembrance will be extended outward, expanding the circle outside the two rows of linden trees. At a radius of 73 feet 6 inches, the new granite wall will provide the wall length needed to list the US and KATUSA names as well as provide enclosure to the memorial space. The names of the fallen will be on the sloped wall facing back to the Pool of Remembrance while the additional information will be incorporated on the south side of the existing mural wall.



Proposed Site Plan with Circulation



Proposed Wall of Remembrance

The views from around the memorial will be changed only modestly. The existing berm from the surrounding landscape will be raised upward to conceal most of the new wall; views to the space under the linden trees and to the letters inscribed in the wall at the Pool of Remembrance “Freedom is not Free” will be retained.

Most visitors begin their visit from the west, predominately coming from the Lincoln Memorial. They walk along the Field of Service and arrive at the Pool of Remembrance. From this point, some walk around the pool, some sit on the benches under the lindens, and some walk directly along the path next to the Mural Wall, arriving back at Daniel French Drive to the west. This pedestrian circulation will be maintained, with the additional option of walking along the Wall of Remembrance.

The new paving and wall will be constructed of the same granite used in the original memorial: Academy Black. Paving will continue as granite setts that begin around the pool. The wall will be of polished granite with the names sandblasted into the finish. The intention is to maximize the contrast between background and lettering. The granite wall will end at a modestly visible distance above the berm and have a simple granite “mow strip” around the outside as the berm transitions to the grass of the mall surrounding the Memorial.

Some visitors continue their tour of the mall by walking directly from the Pool of Remembrance to Ash Road and onward to the World War II Memorial. Others walk from the plaza to Independence Avenue and from there to the Martin Luther King Memorial. We propose to enhance these paths by breaking the Wall of Remembrance at two points to allow pedestrians to access both Ash Road to the north and Independence Avenue to the south without stepping over plant material, walls, or chains.

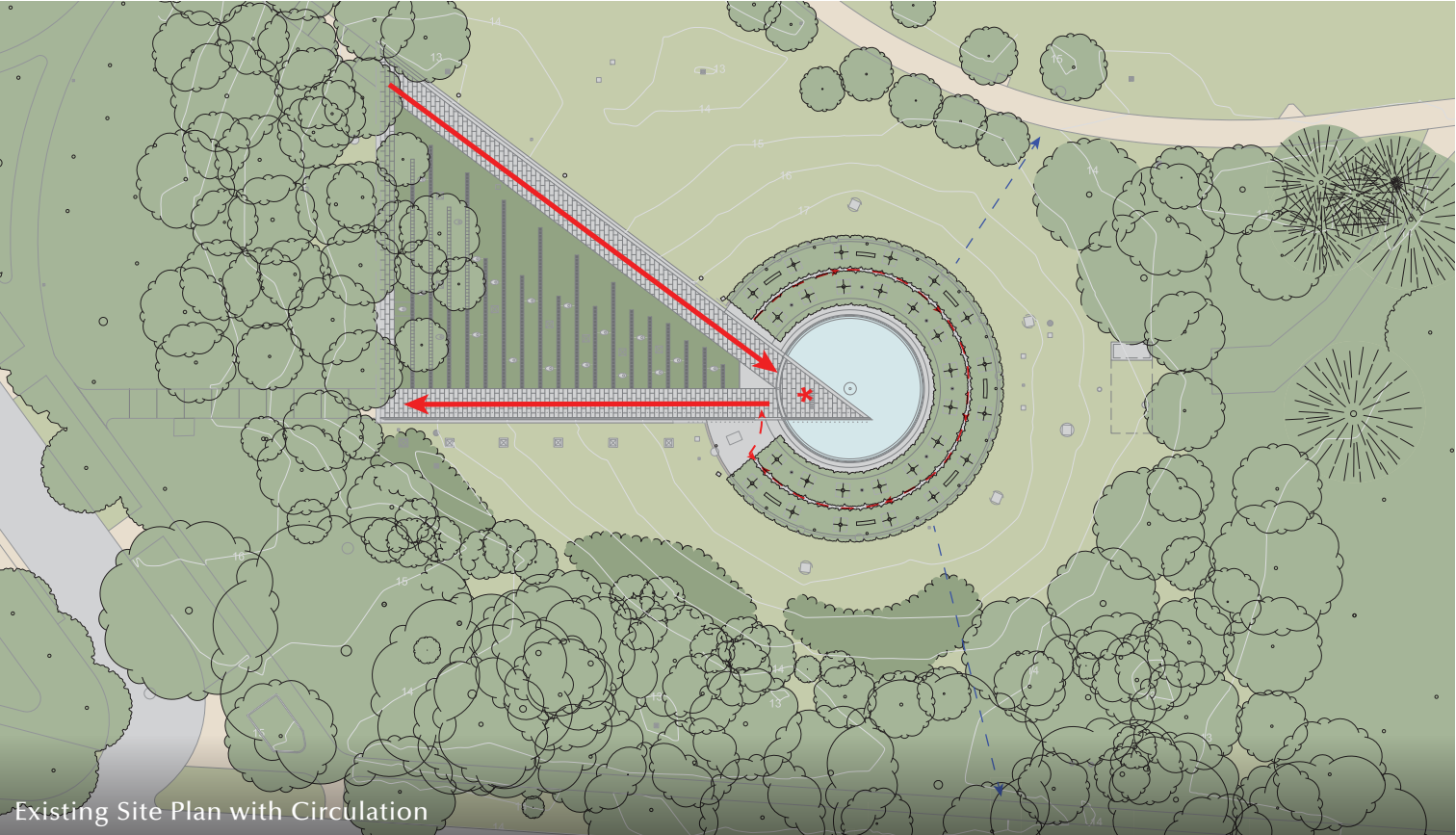
As part of the scope of this project we will also be rehabilitating the existing memorial. This includes: repairing causes of differential settlement in paved areas around the pool, replacing the tree grates, repairing the joints in and around the fountain, replacing sandblasted country names and casualty curb information with stainless steel letters, refinishing the stainless steel statues, replacing the juniper in the Field of Service with the originally specified plant material, addressing drainage issues at the west end of the memorial and replacing and enhancing the existing memorial lighting with LED lamps.

Alternative Sites and Designs

This project is an addition to an existing memorial, so there are no opportunities for alternative sites. However, we did develop alternative designs for the Wall of Remembrance. The preferred alternative is the one included in this submission: a circular area surrounding the existing Pool of Remembrance defined by a low wall at the edge. This design adds 5,600sf to the current memorial and has an impacted area of approximately 102,000 sf. Additional design alternatives are illustrated in Appendix A.

Environmental and Historical Considerations

The NPS is adhering to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). The project has just recently completed the Section 106 review process and received a determination of “no adverse effect” on historic properties from DC Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Given this, it is anticipated that the project will receive a Categorical Exclusion under the NCPC’s regulations implementing the NEPA as part of 1 C.F.R. section 601.12(a)(6) therefore no Environmental Assessment (EA) will be necessary.





View from Northwest Memorial Entry



View from North Pathway Looking South



View of Pool of Remembrance



View from Pool of Remembrance Looking West



View from Ash Road



View from Southwest Memorial Entry

EXISTING SITE PHOTOS



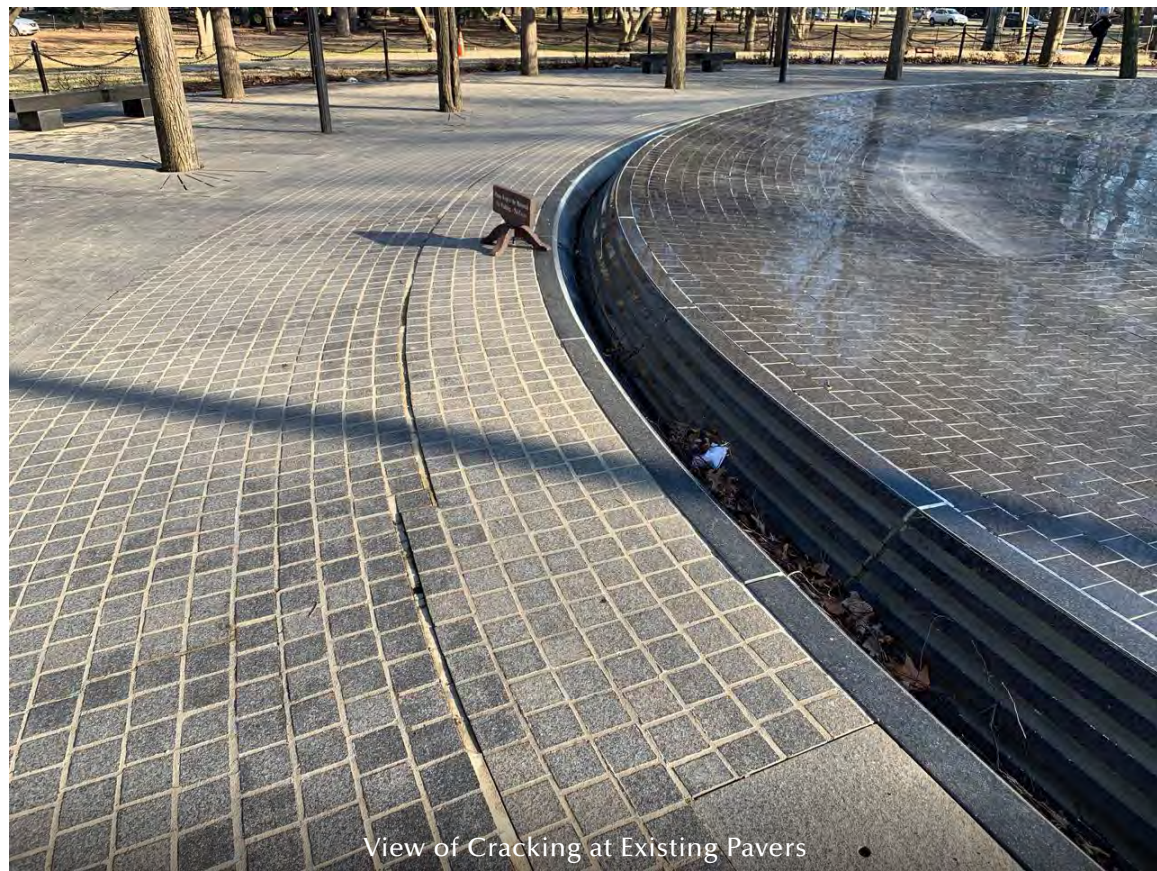
View of Southwest Memorial Entry



View from Independence Avenue Looking North



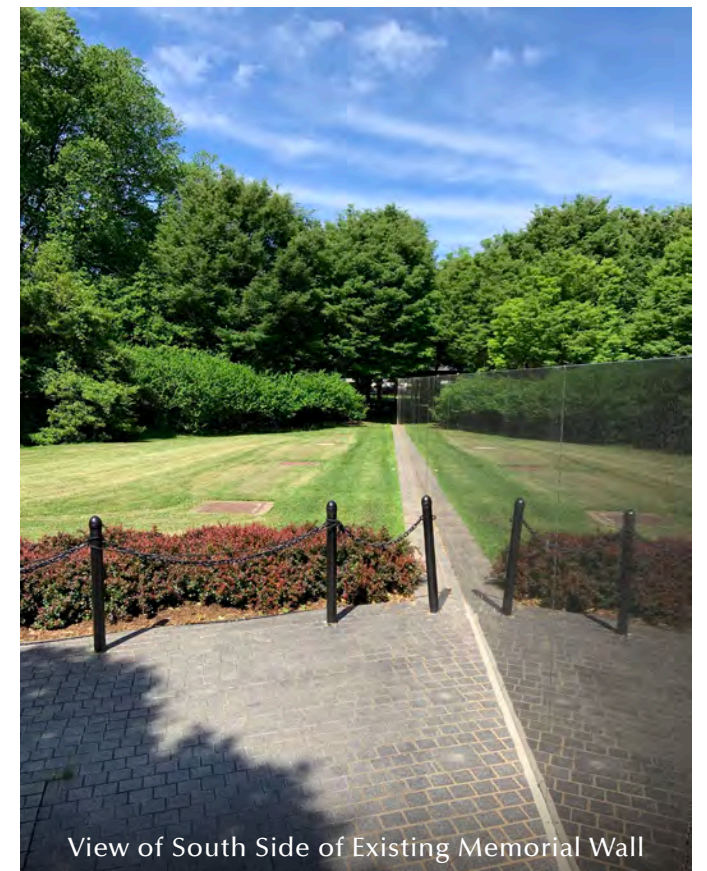
View from Ash Road Looking South



View of Cracking at Existing Pavers



View of Cracking at Existing Pavers

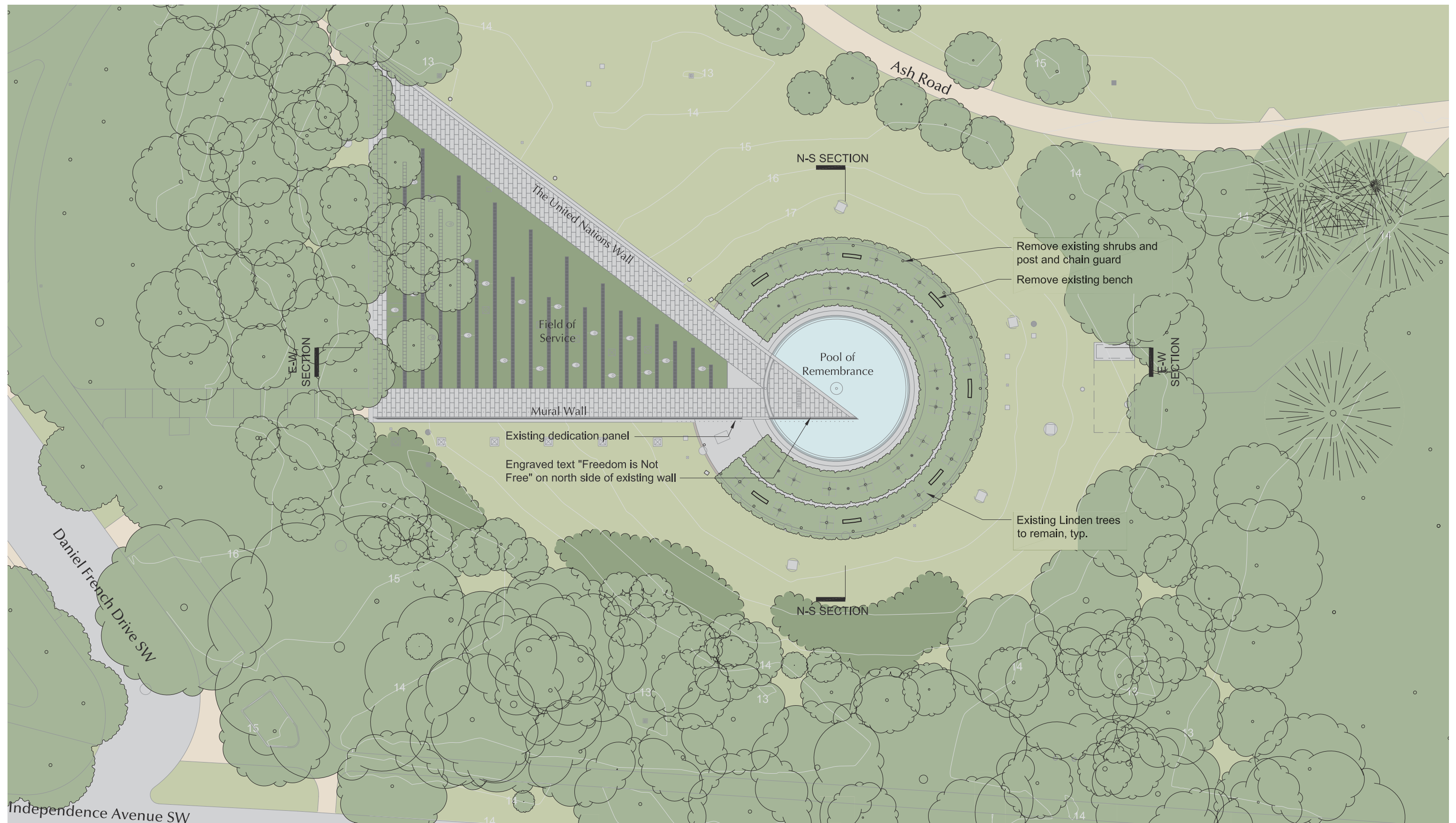


View of South Side of Existing Memorial Wall

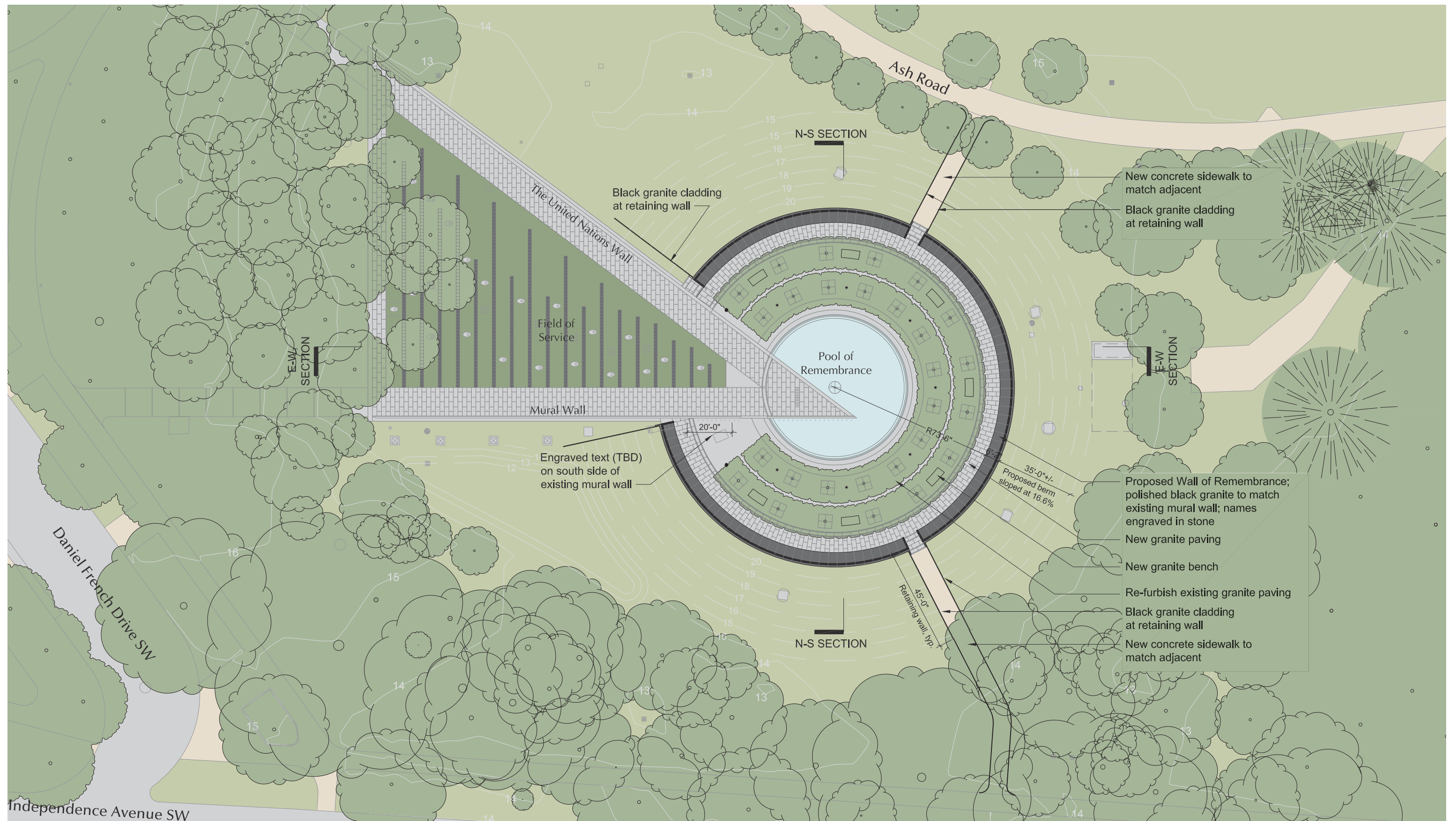
EXISTING SITE PHOTOS



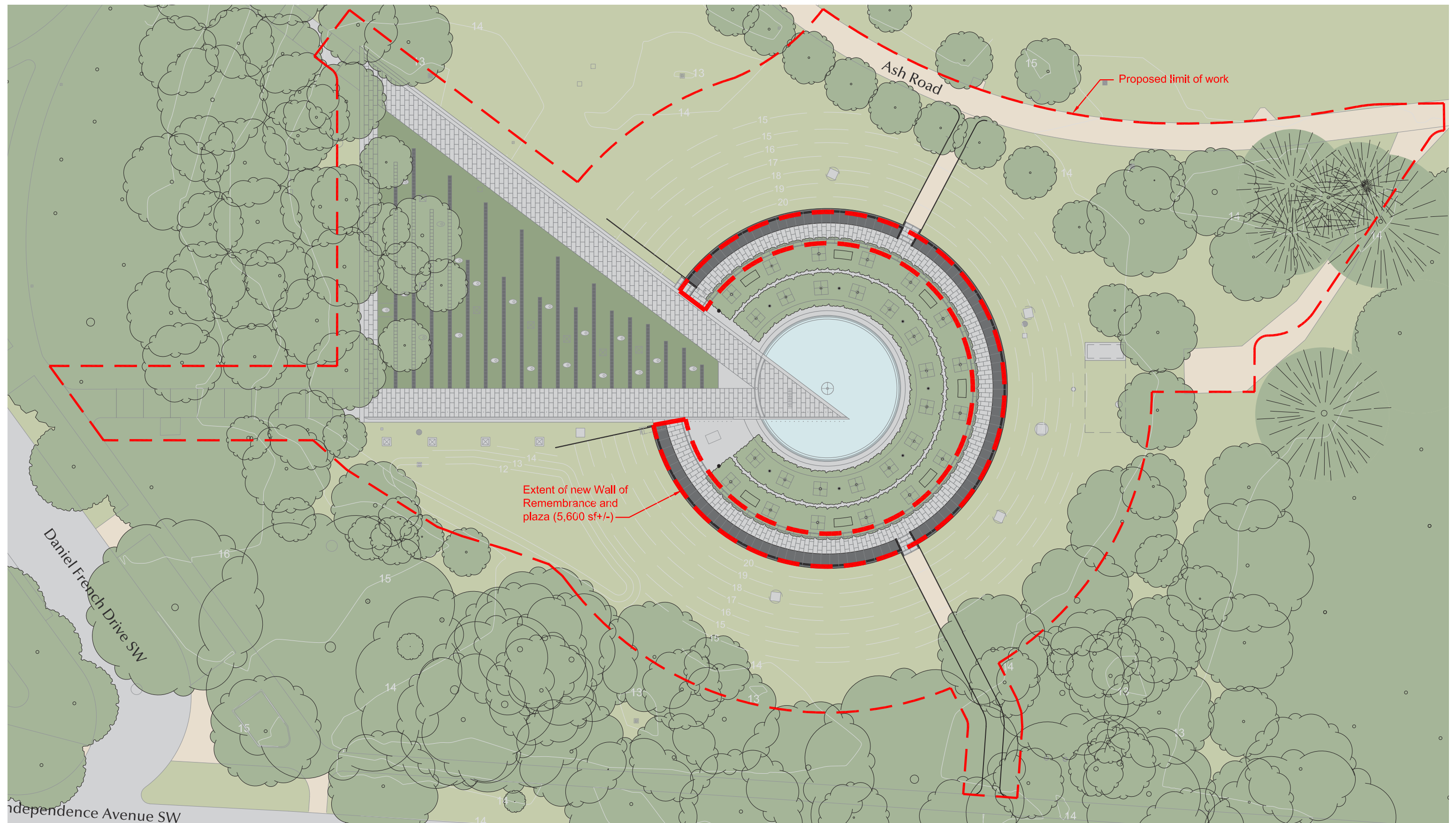
AERIAL VIEW OF CONTEXT



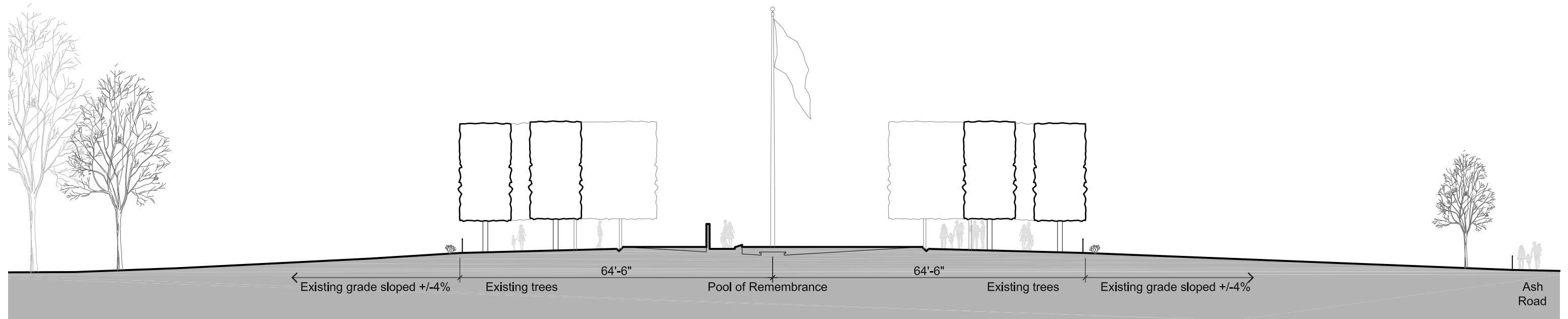
EXISTING SITE PLAN



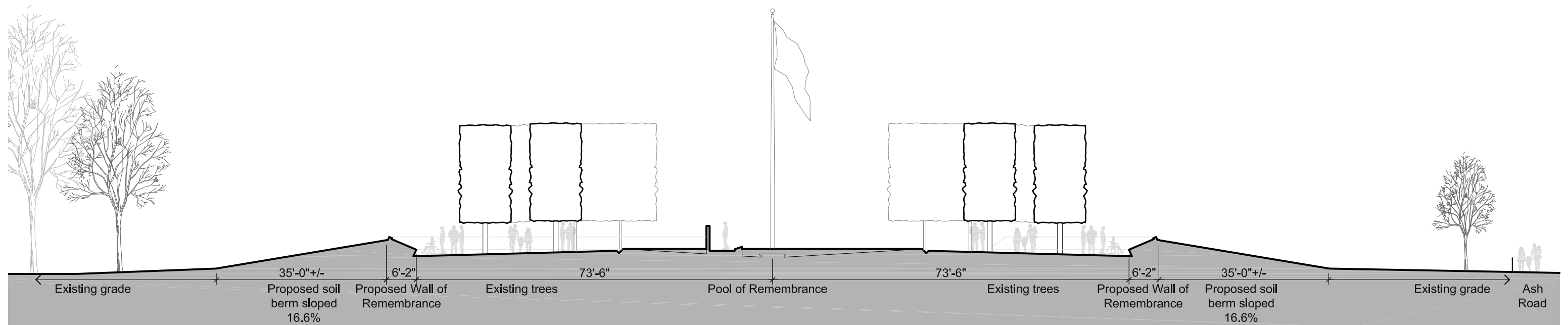
PROPOSED SITE PLAN



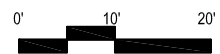
PROPOSED SITE PLAN WITH WORK LIMITS



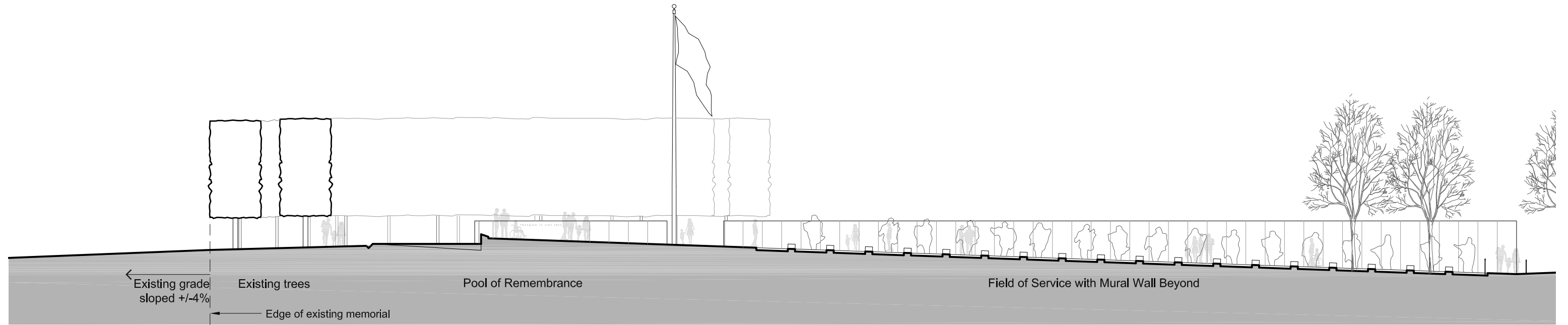
EXISTING



PROPOSED



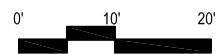
NORTH-SOUTH SITE SECTIONS THROUGH POOL OF REMEMBRANCE



EXISTING



PROPOSED



EAST-WEST SITE SECTIONS

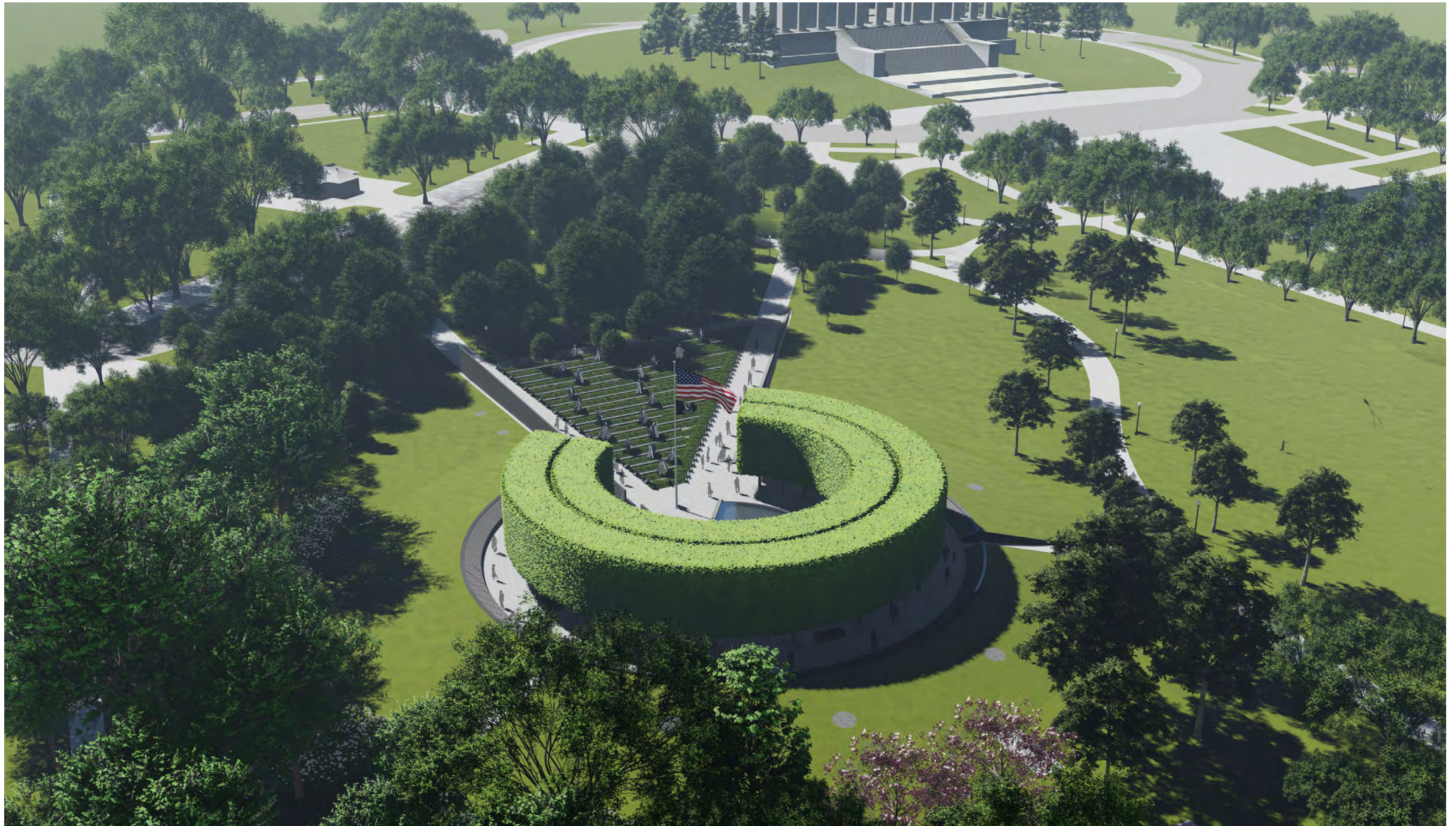


PROPOSED SECTION THROUGH WALL OF REMEMBRANCE

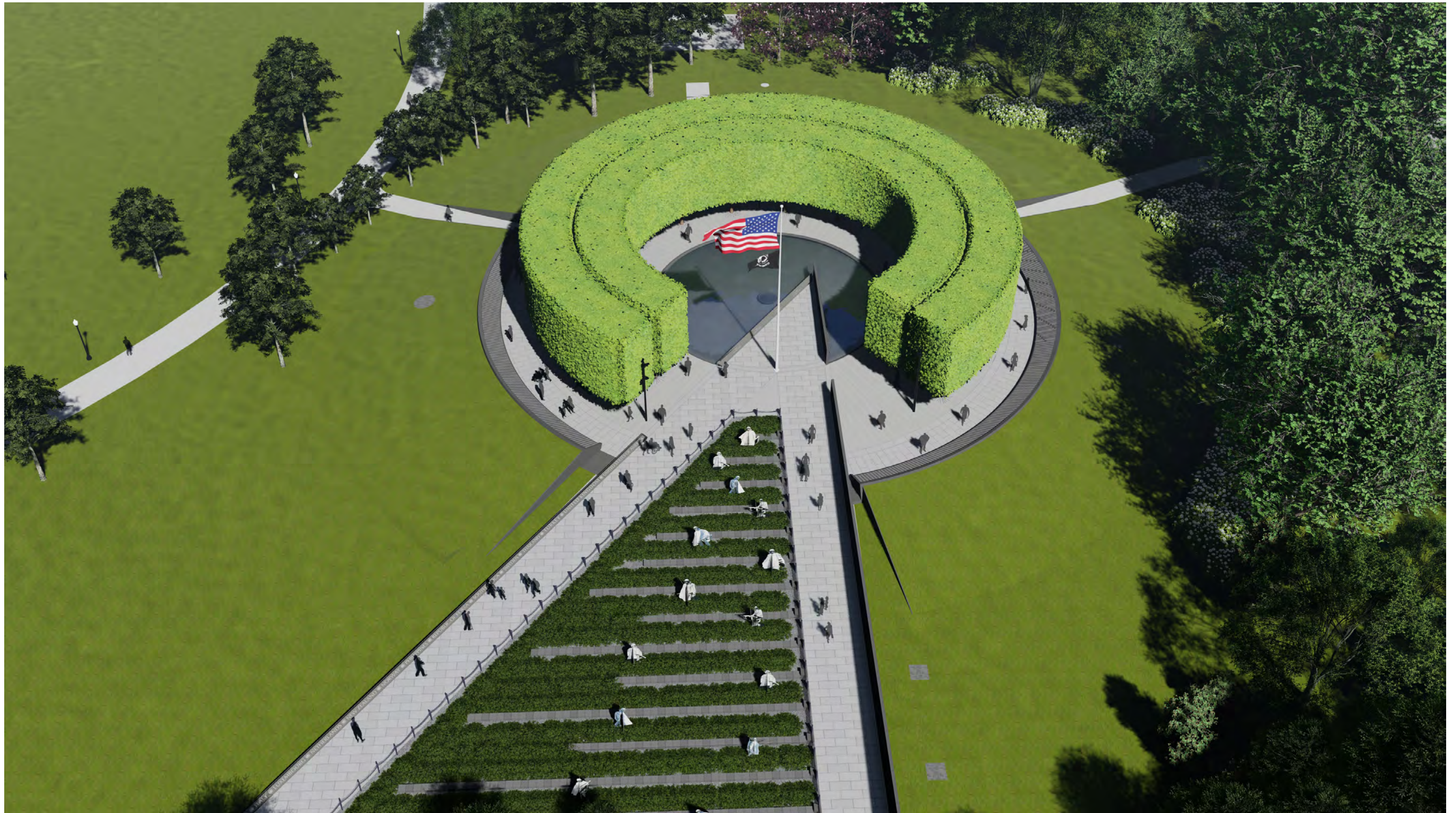


Note: This is showing the current design concept. Font selection and layout of names is still pending.

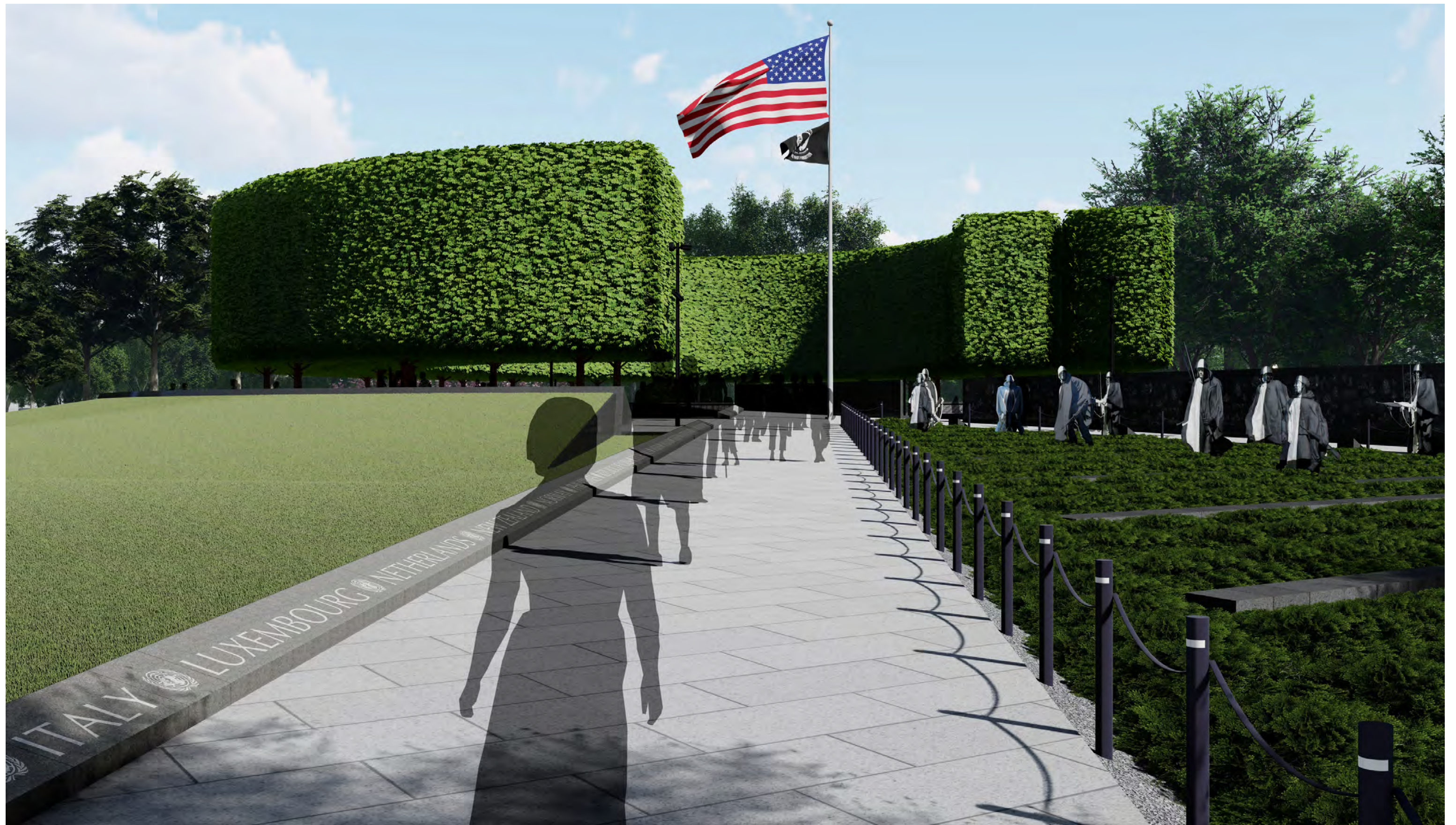
VIEW OF ENGRAVED NAMES



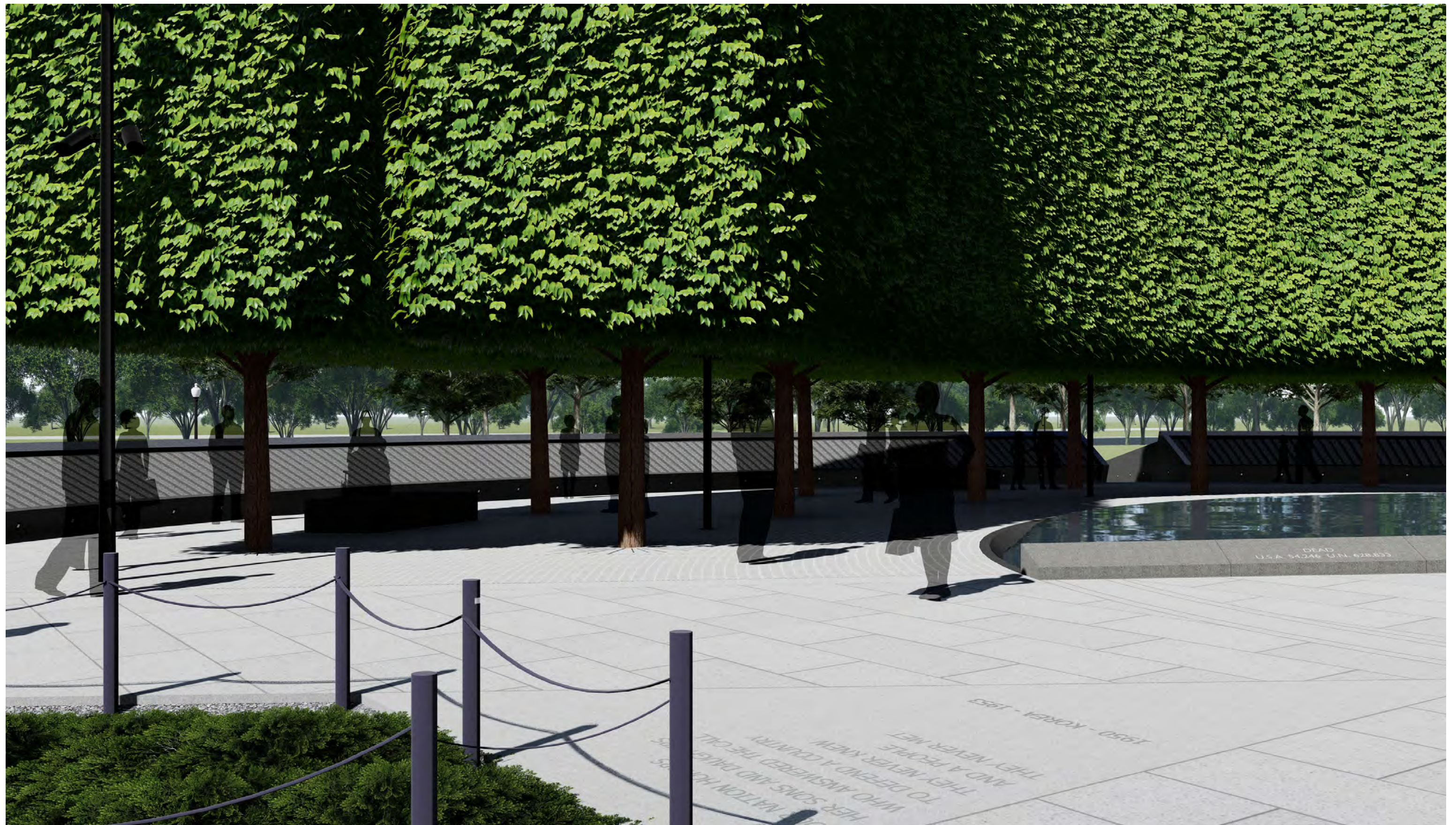
BIRD'S EYE VIEW LOOKING WEST



BIRD'S EYE VIEW LOOKING EAST



VIEW FROM NORTHWEST MEMORIAL ENTRY



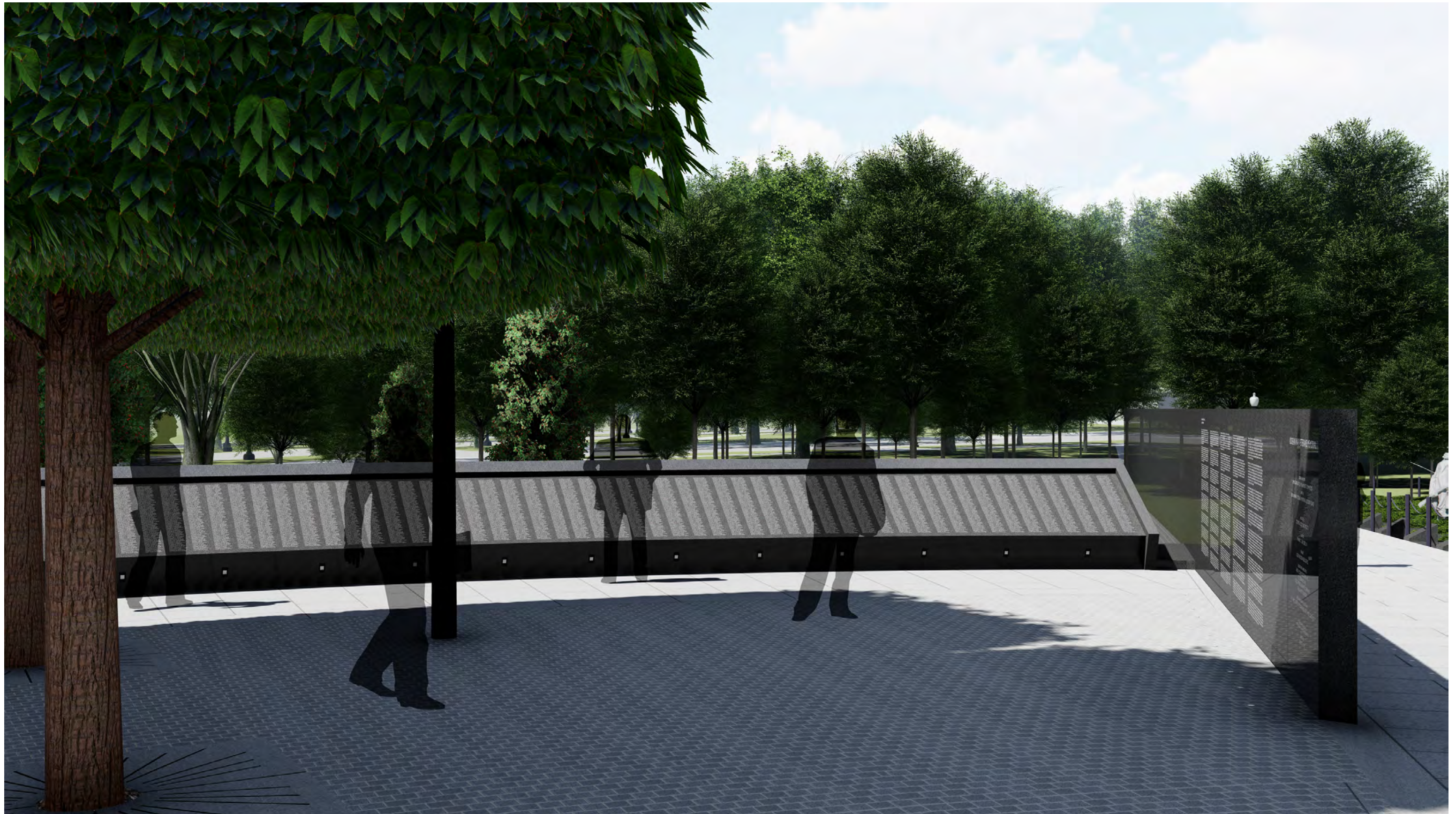
VIEW FROM POOL OF REMEMBRANCE LOOKING NORTH



VIEW FROM WITHIN WALL OF REMEMBRANCE



VIEW FROM WITHIN WALL OF REMEMBRANCE



VIEW FROM WITHIN WALL OF REMEMBRANCE



VIEW FROM POOL OF REMEMBRANCE LOOKING WEST



VIEW FROM SOUTHWEST MEMORIAL ENTRY



VIEW FROM ASH ROAD



VIEW FROM ASH ROAD



VIEW FROM INDEPENDENCE AVENUE

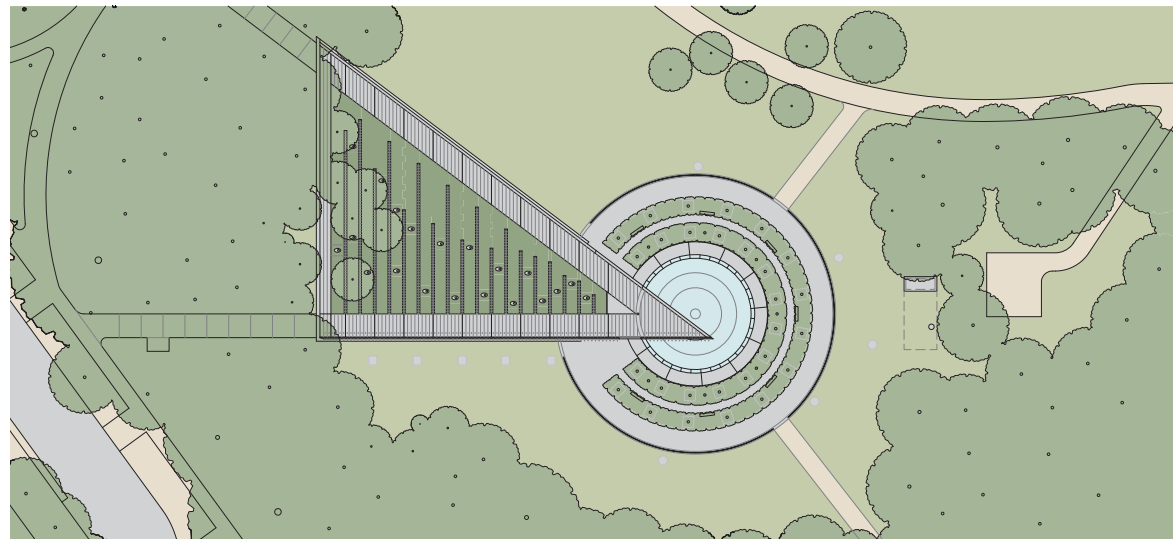


VIEW FROM INDEPENDENCE AVENUE

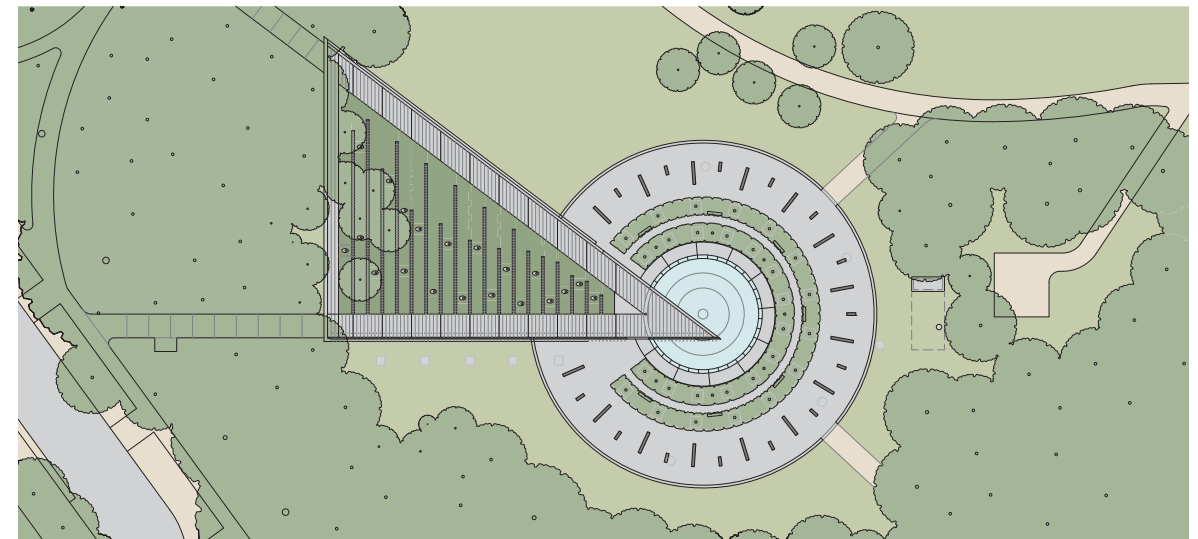


APPENDIX A

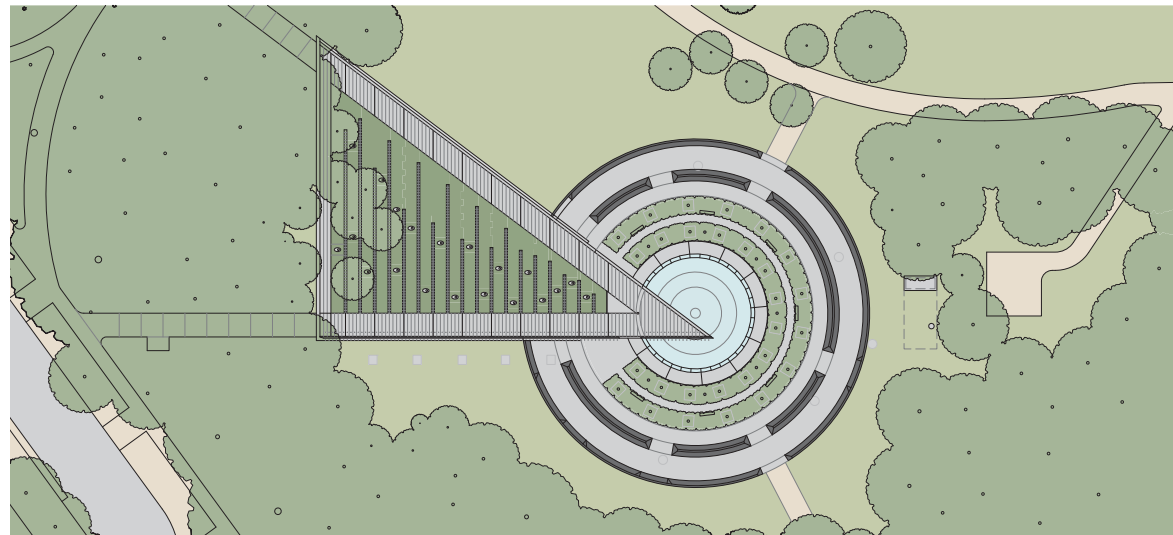
ALTERNATIVE DESIGN CONCEPTS



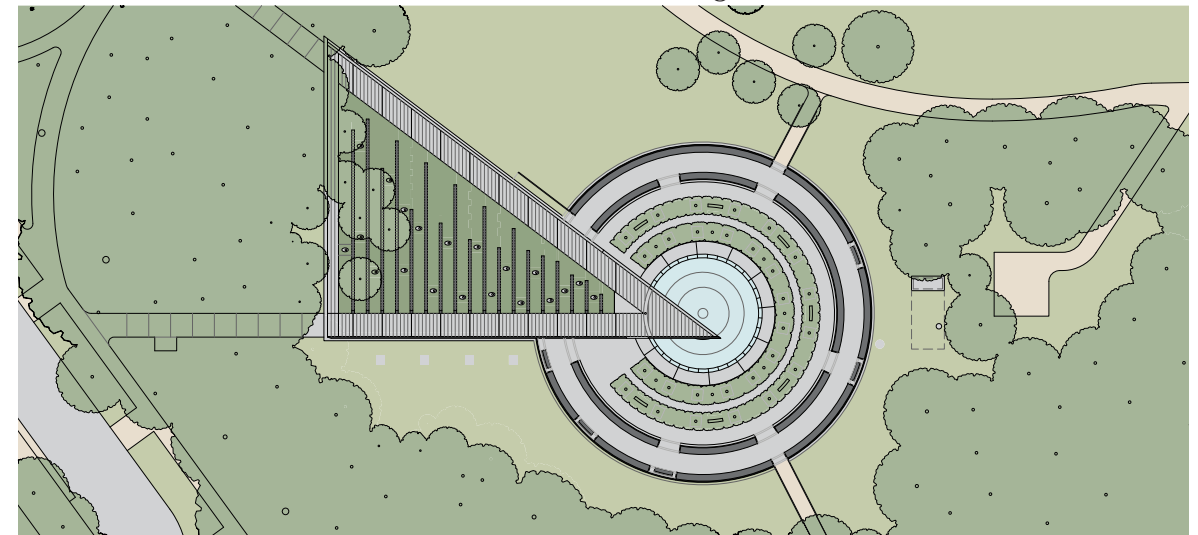
OPTION A.1 - Glass Wall



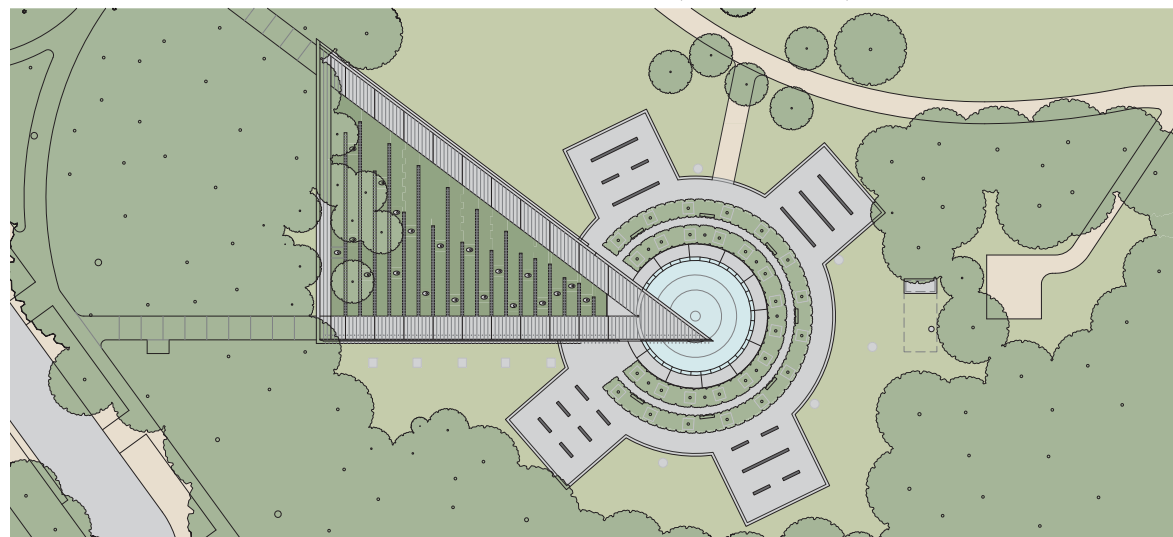
OPTION B.1 - Radiating Walls



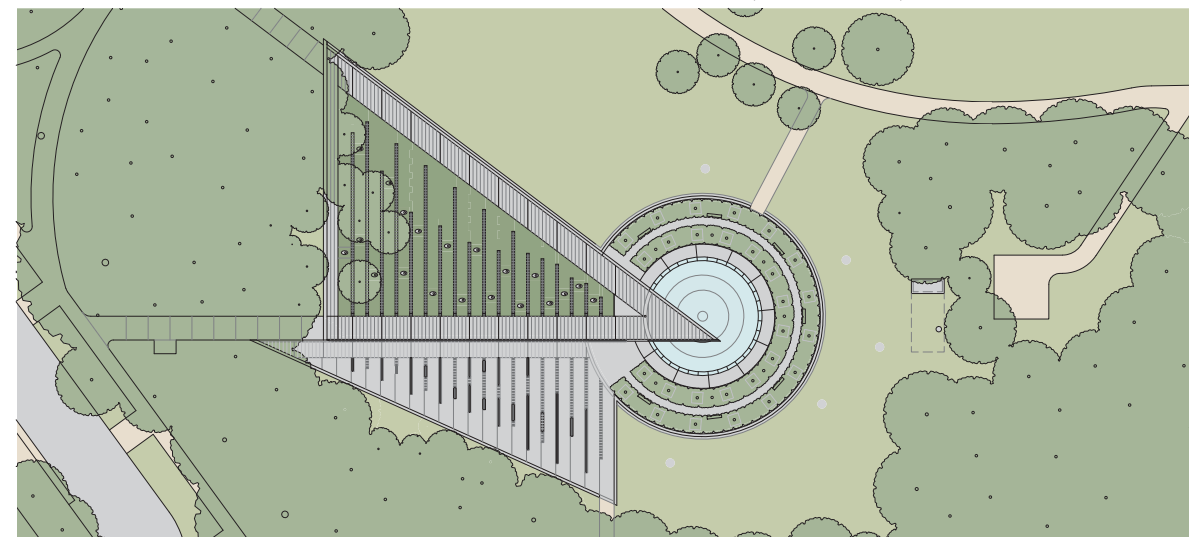
OPTION C.1 - Low Walls (Three Sided)



OPTION C.2 & C.3 - Low Walls (Two Sided)



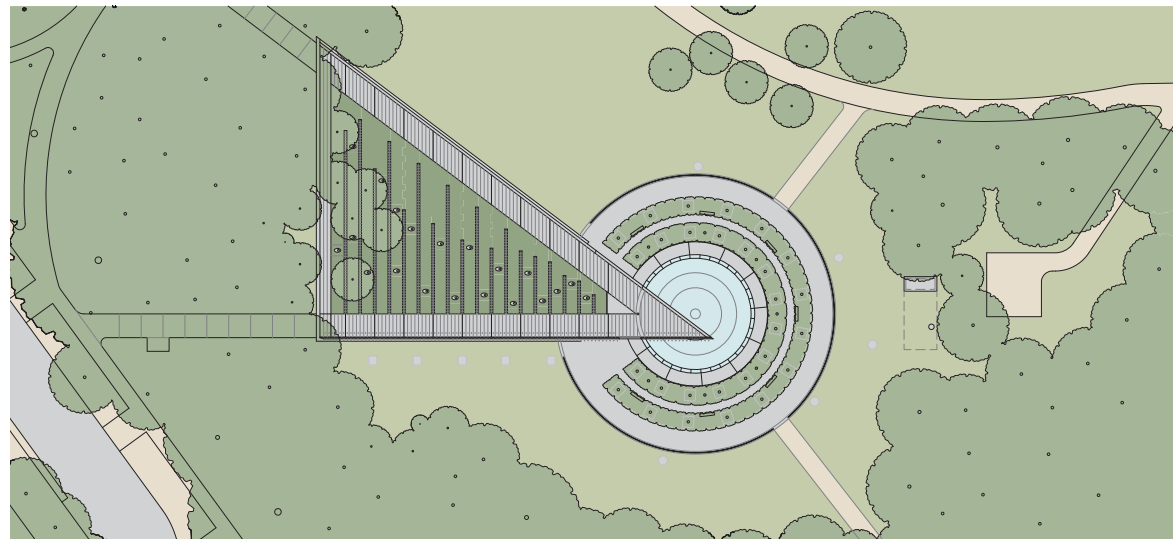
OPTION D.1 - Korean Flag Trigram Pattern



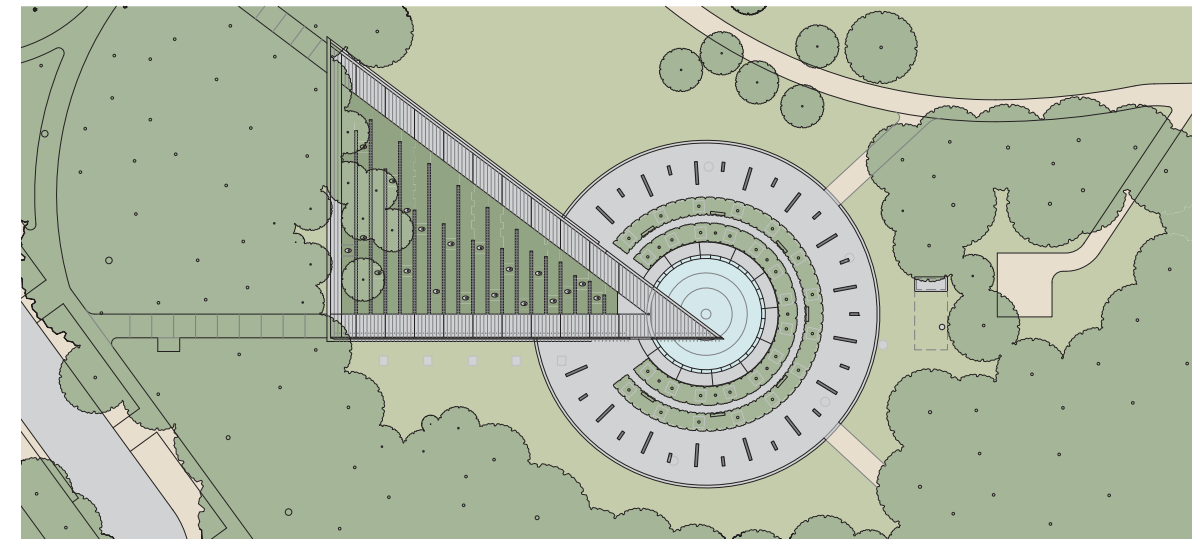
OPTION E.1 - South Side Area of Remembrance (Walls Oriented North-South)



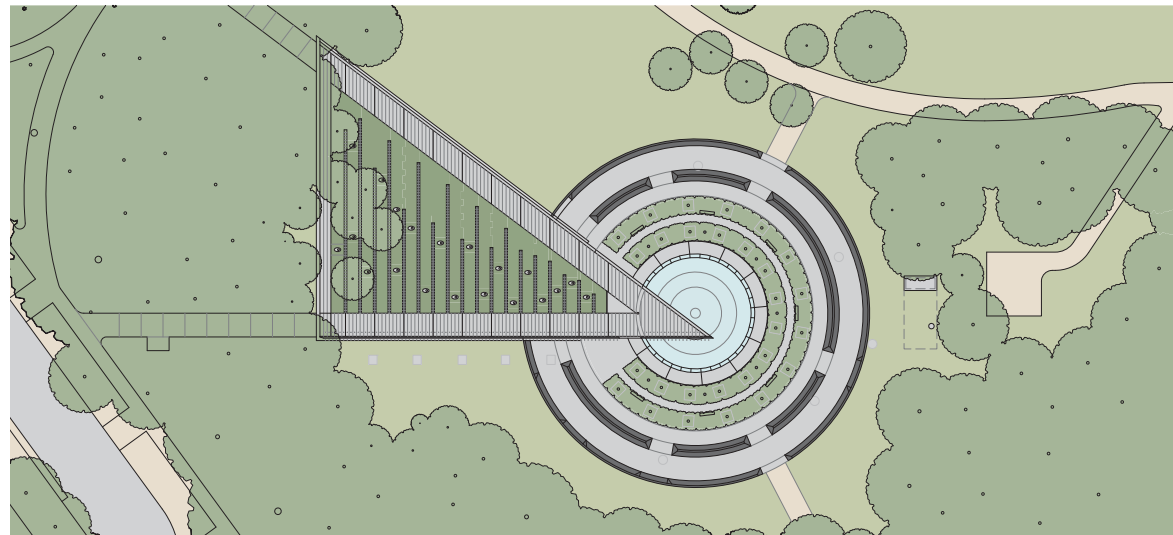
DESIGN OPTIONS



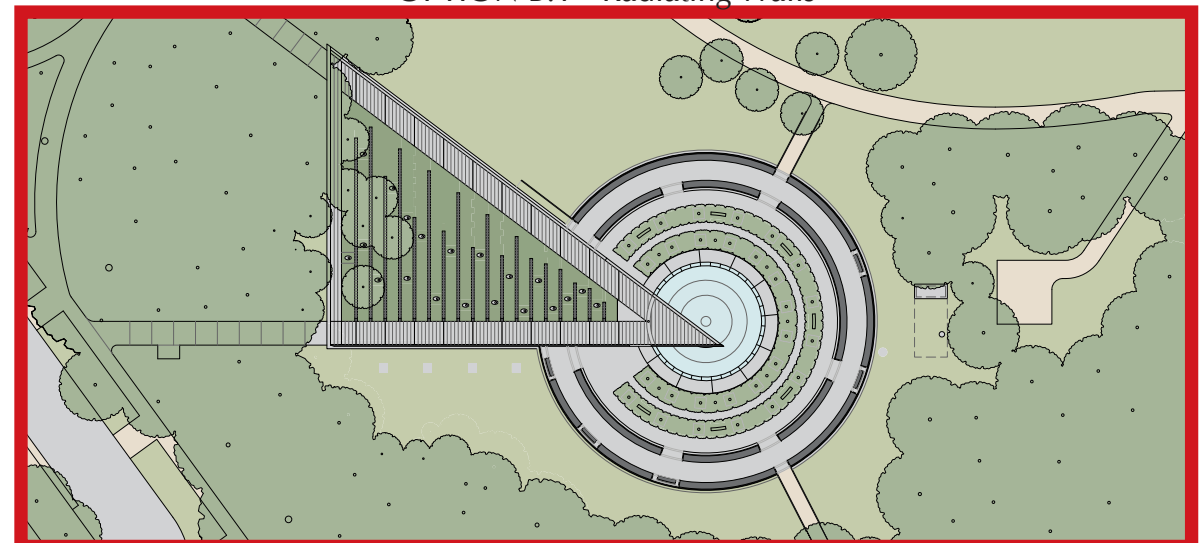
OPTION A.1 - Glass Wall



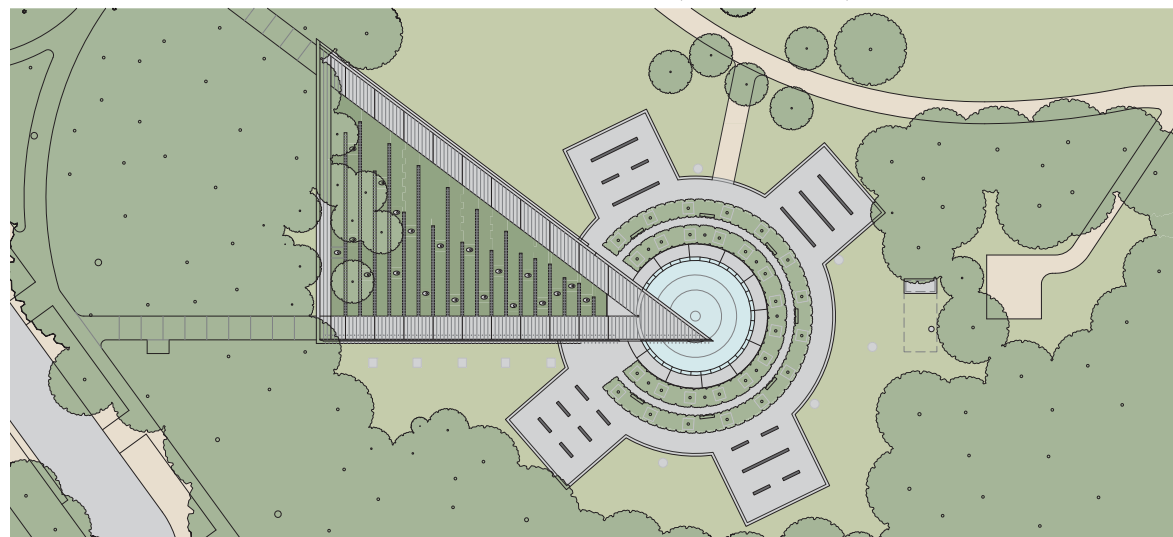
OPTION B.1 - Radiating Walls



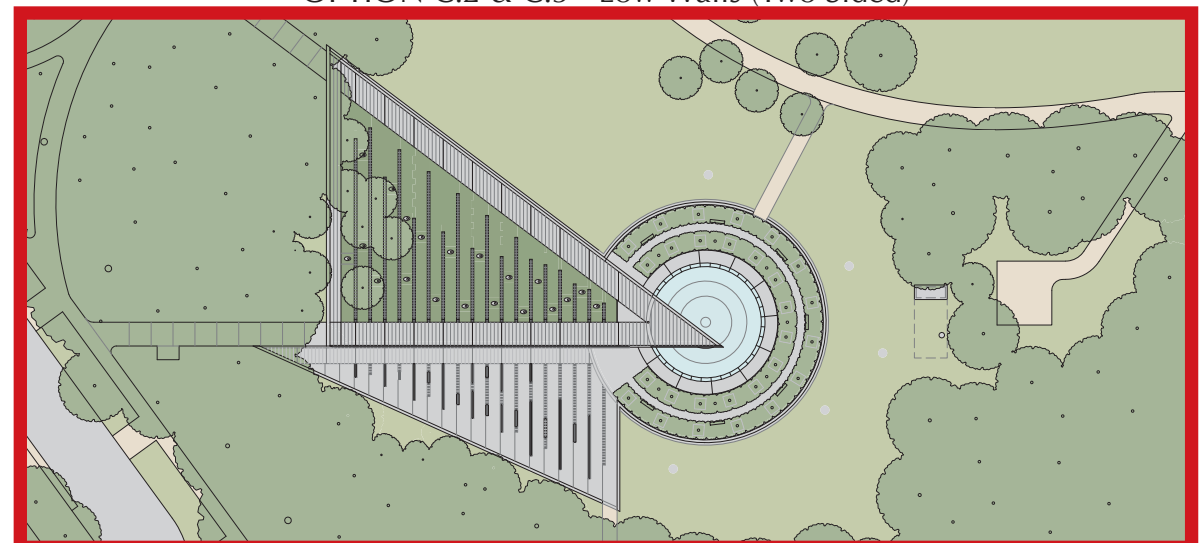
OPTION C.1 - Low Walls (Three Sided)



OPTION C.2 & C.3 - Low Walls (Two Sided)



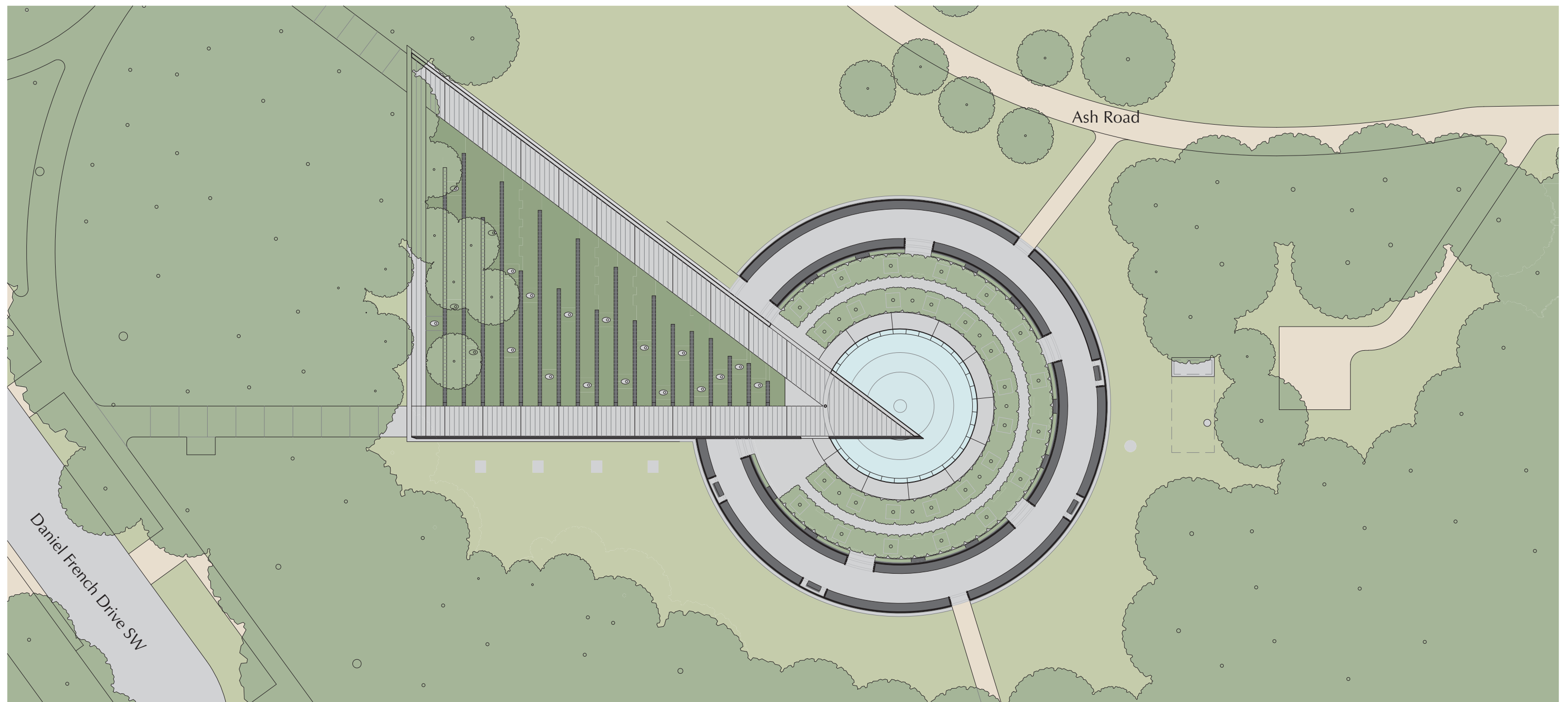
OPTION D.1 - Korean Flag Trigram Pattern



OPTION E.1 - South Side Area of Remembrance (Walls Oriented North-South)



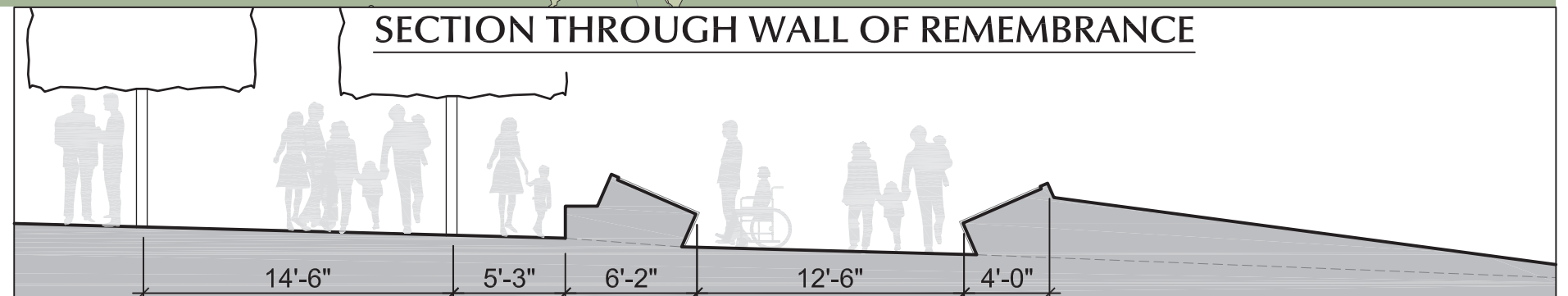
DESIGN OPTIONS



SUMMARY

- Low walls with text on an angled horizontal surface
- Constructed of stone and blackened stainless steel
- Additional hardscape: 10,410 sf, Radius at inner ring: 69', Radius at outer ring: 84'-10", 721 linear feet for names, 2,646 sf of text area

SECTION THROUGH WALL OF REMEMBRANCE



OPTION C.3 - LOW WALLS (TWO SIDED)



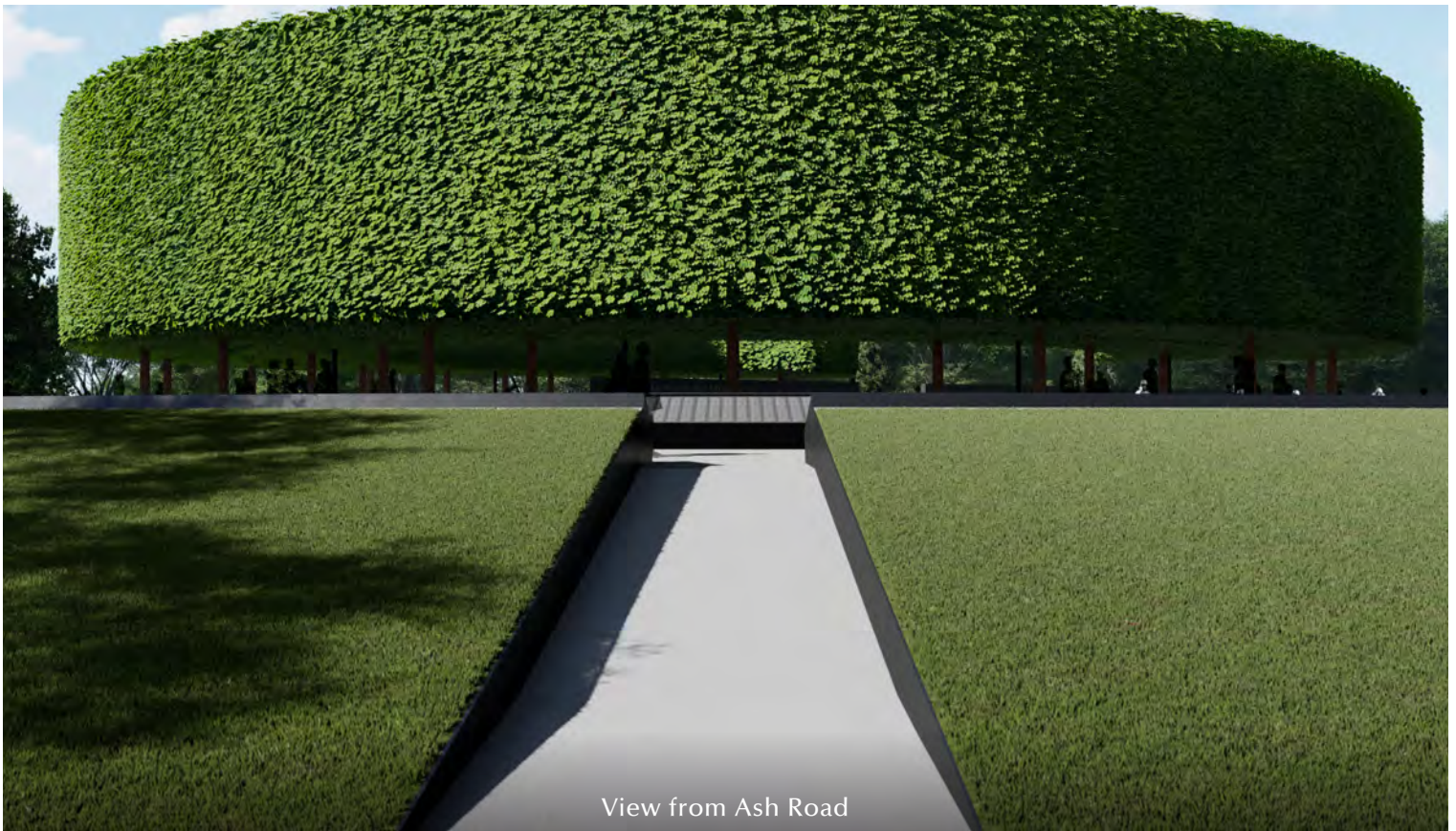
Birdseye View Looking West



Birdseye View Looking East

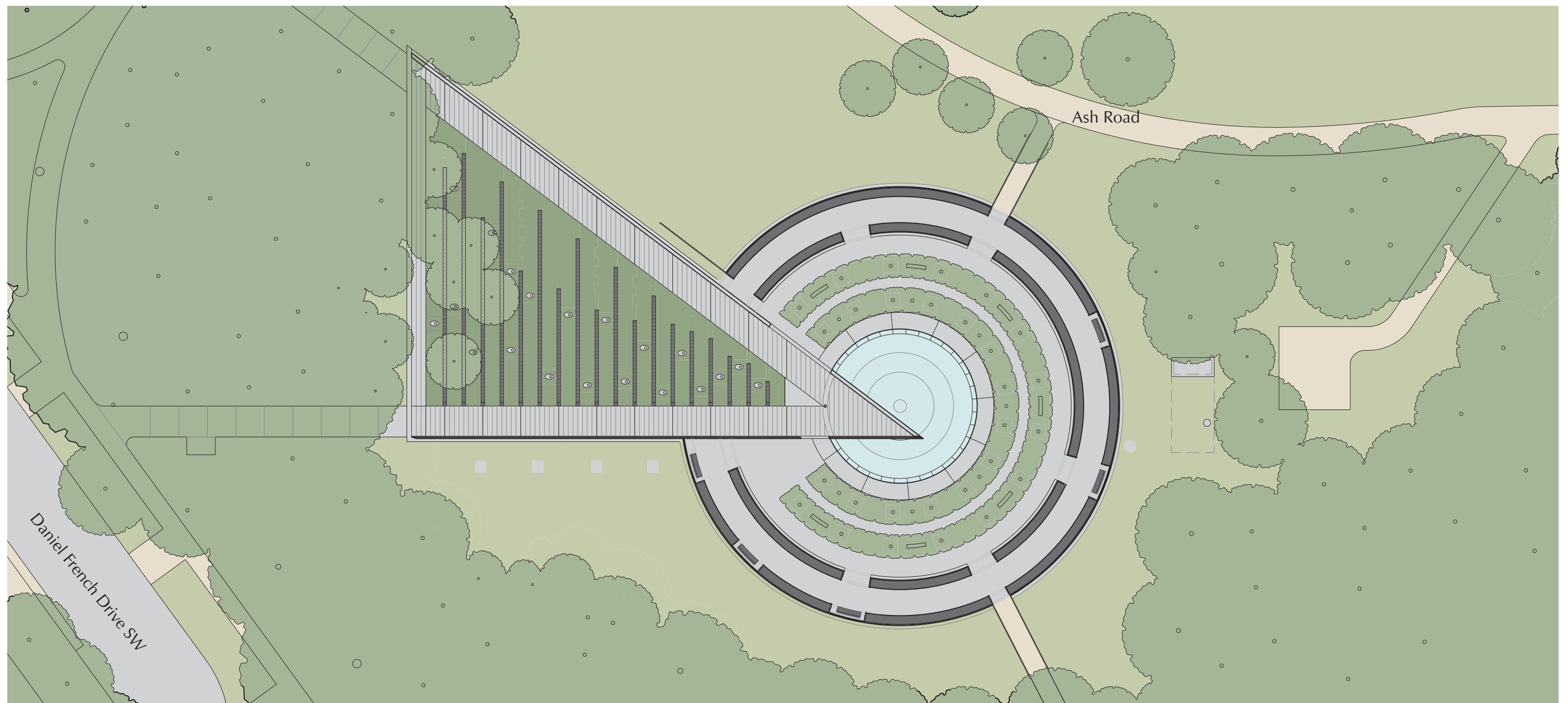


View from within Wall of Remembrance



View from Ash Road

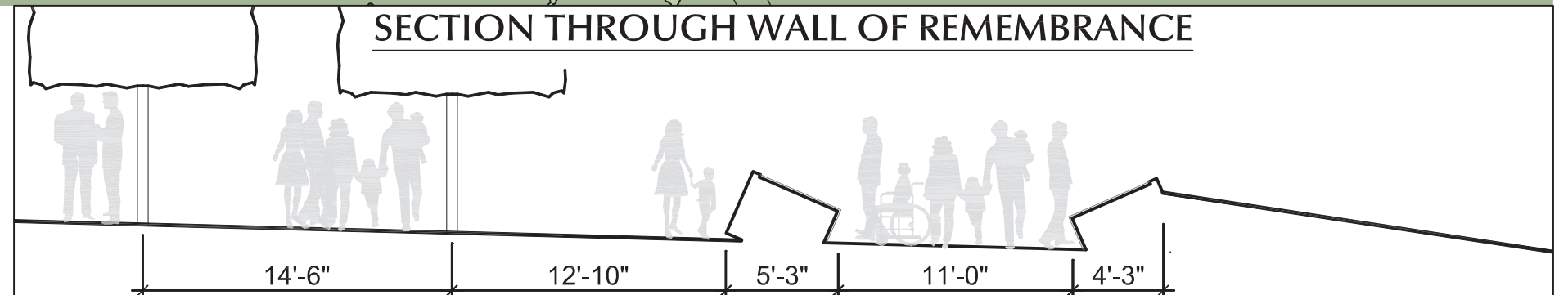
RENDERED VIEWS OF OPTION C.3



SUMMARY

- Low walls with text on an angled horizontal surface
- Constructed of stone and blackened stainless steel
- Additional hardscape: 12,160 sf, Radius at inner ring: 72'-1", Radius at outer ring: 88'-4", 714 linear feet for names, 2,620 sf of text area (names only)
- Walls are low enough that there is minimal visual impact to views of Mall and experience of original memorial

SECTION THROUGH WALL OF REMEMBRANCE



OPTION C.2 - LOW WALLS (TWO SIDED)



Birdseye View Looking West



Birdseye View Looking East

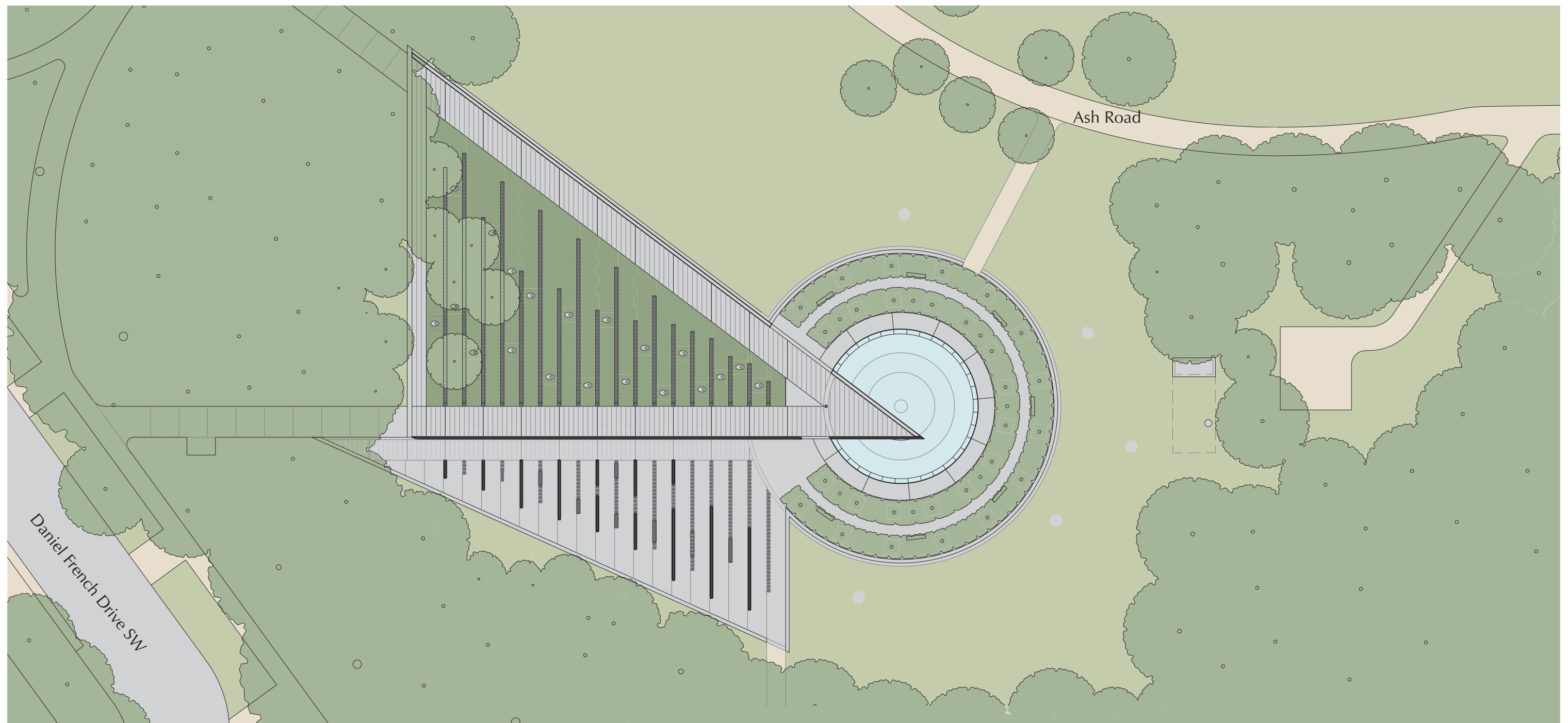


View from Northwest Memorial Entry



View from Ash Road

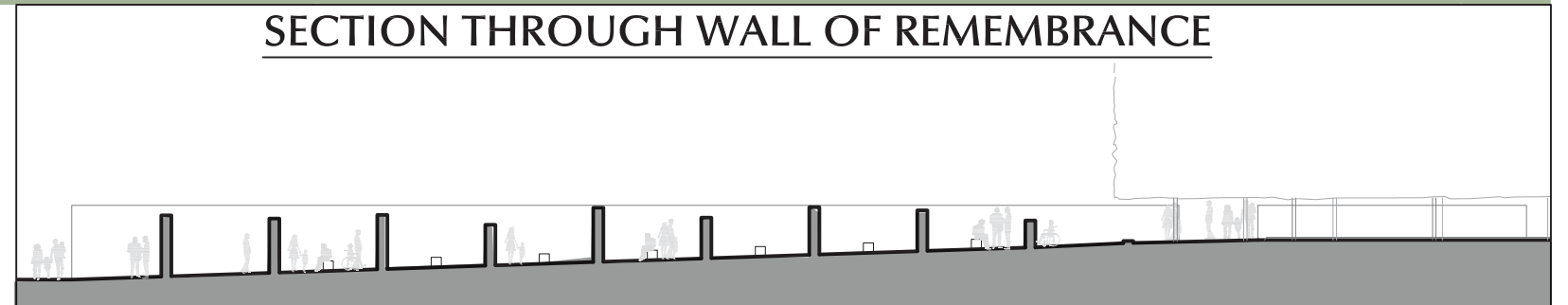
RENDERED VIEWS OF OPTION C.2



SUMMARY

- Stone or stainless steel walls, varied in height from 4' to 9', arranged in a north-south orientation to align with the parallels; text on both sides of wall
- Additional text can be engraved on existing blank stone wall
- Creates a separate space for viewing the Wall of Remembrance
- Visual impact of original memorial is virtually unaltered from north side
- Additional hardscape: 8,695 sf additional hardscape; 2,435sf of text area

SECTION THROUGH WALL OF REMEMBRANCE



OPTION E.1 - SOUTH SIDE AREA OF REMEMBRANCE



Birdseye View Looking West



Birdseye View Looking East

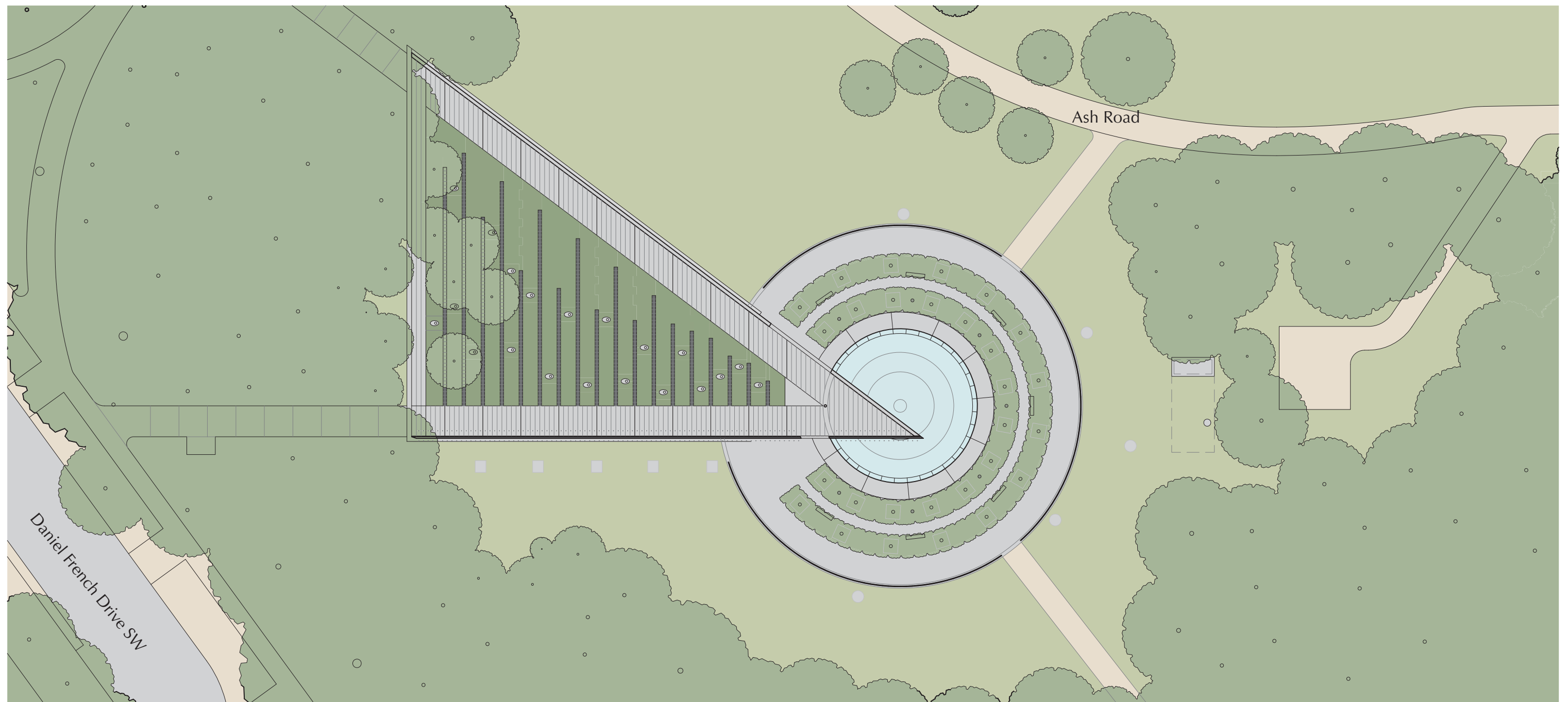


View from Southwest Memorial Entry



View from within Wall of Remembrance Plaza

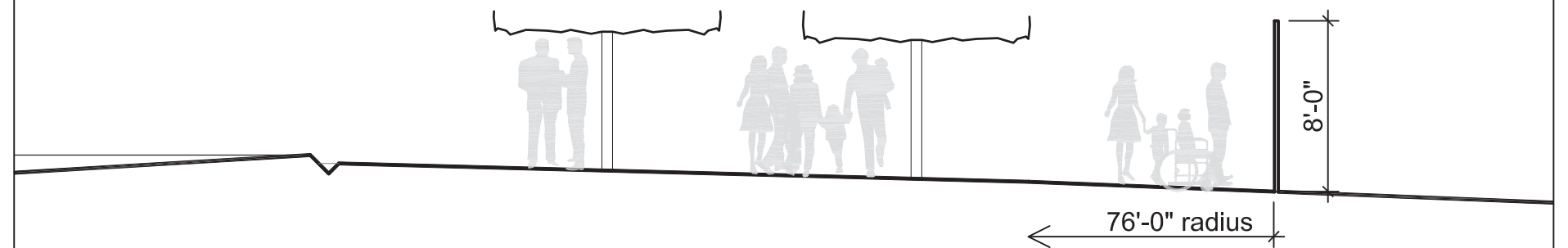
RENDERED VIEWS OF OPTION E.1



SUMMARY

- One-sided, 8' tall glass wall
- 1/2" text extending to down to 12" above grade
- Openings provided for egress to pathways
- Additional hardscape: 4,810 sf, Wall radius: 76'
- Disadvantage: Visual impact on existing memorial

SECTION THROUGH WALL OF REMEMBRANCE



OPTION A.1 - GLASS WALL OF REMEMBRANCE



Birdseye View Looking West



Birdseye View Looking East

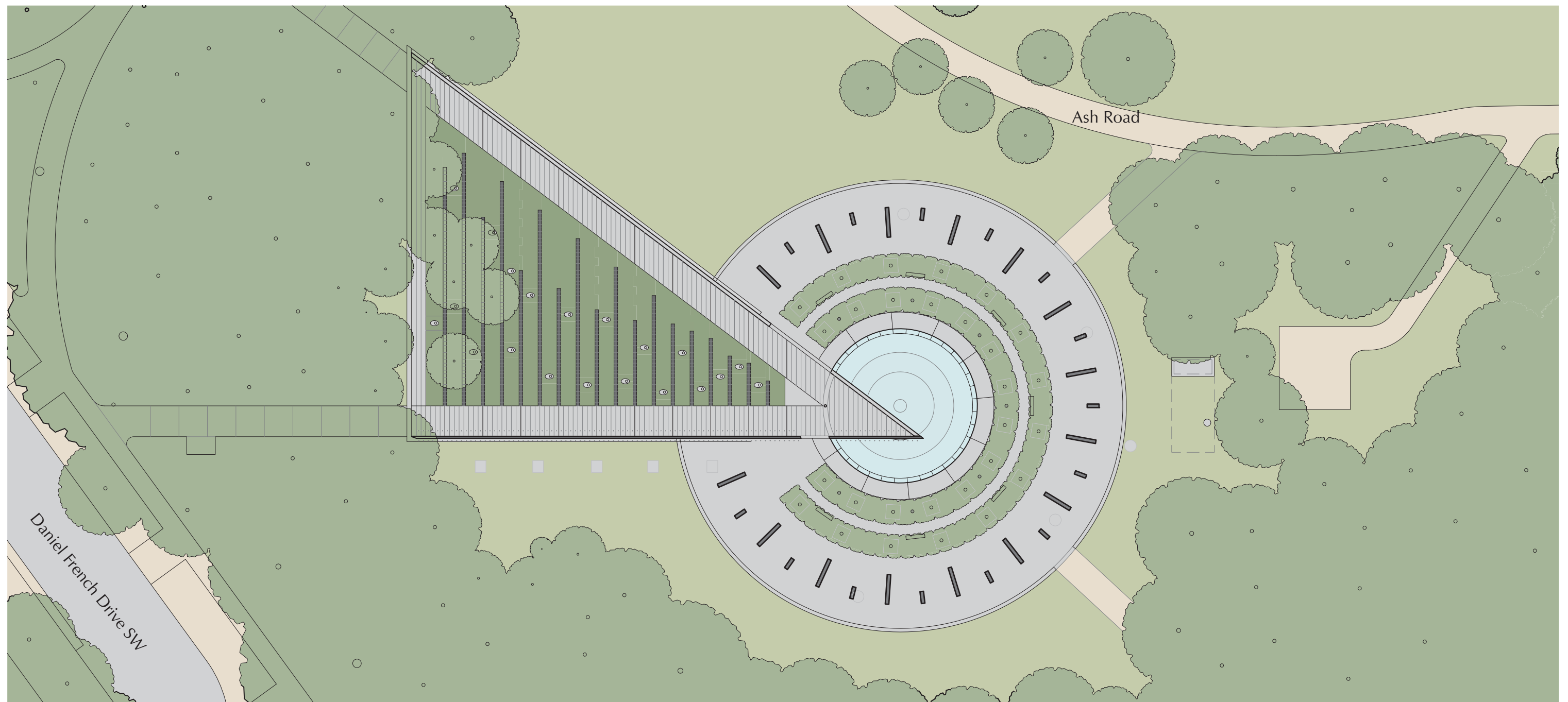


View from Northwest Memorial Entry



View from Ash Road

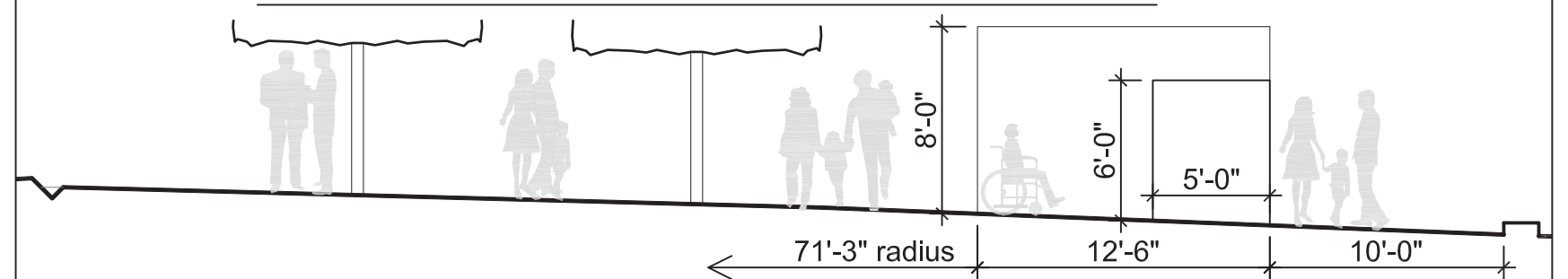
RENDERED VIEWS OF OPTION A.1



SUMMARY

- Radiating walls with text on both sides of wall
- Longer walls are 8' tall, shorter walls are 6' tall
- Constructed of stone or stainless steel
- Multiple openings to allow for views of the Mall and connections to pathways
- Additional hardscape: 13,580 sf; Radius of hardscape: 95'-3"
- Disadvantage: Strong visual impact could detract from existing memorial

SECTION THROUGH WALL OF REMEMBRANCE



OPTION B.1 - RADIATING WALLS



Birdseye View Looking West



Birdseye View Looking East

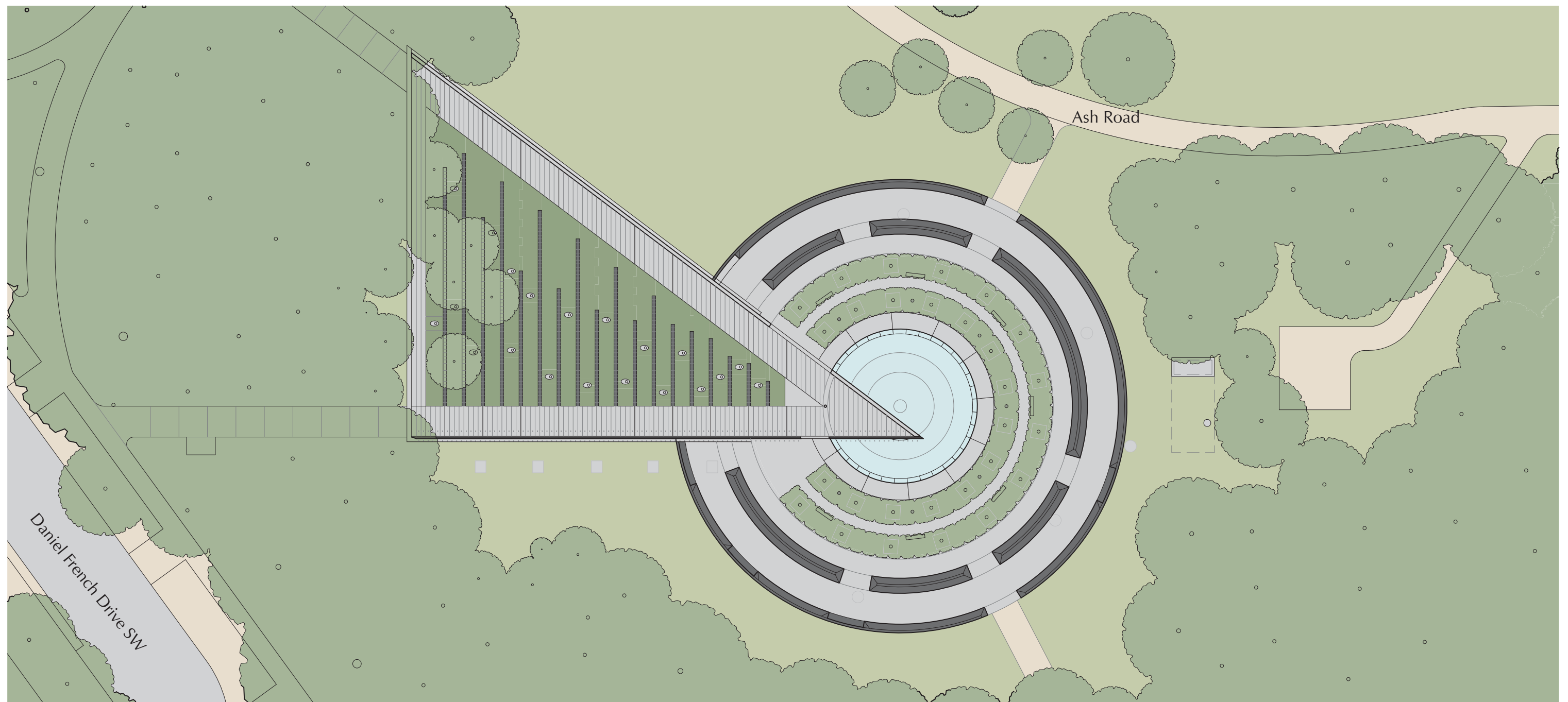


View from Northwest Memorial Entry



View from Ash Road

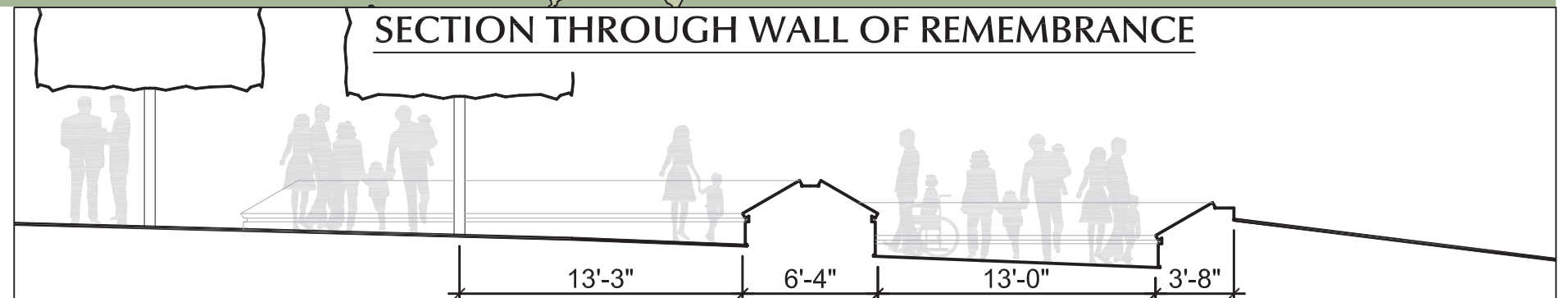
RENDERED VIEWS OF OPTION B.1



SUMMARY

- Low walls with text on an angled horizontal surface
- Constructed of stone or stainless steel
- Additional hardscape: 13,710 sf, Radius at inner ring: 72'-6", Radius at outer ring: 91'-10"
- Walls are low enough that there is minimal visual impact to views of Mall and experience of original memorial

SECTION THROUGH WALL OF REMEMBRANCE



OPTION C.1 - LOW WALLS (THREE SIDED)



Birdseye View Looking West



Birdseye View Looking East

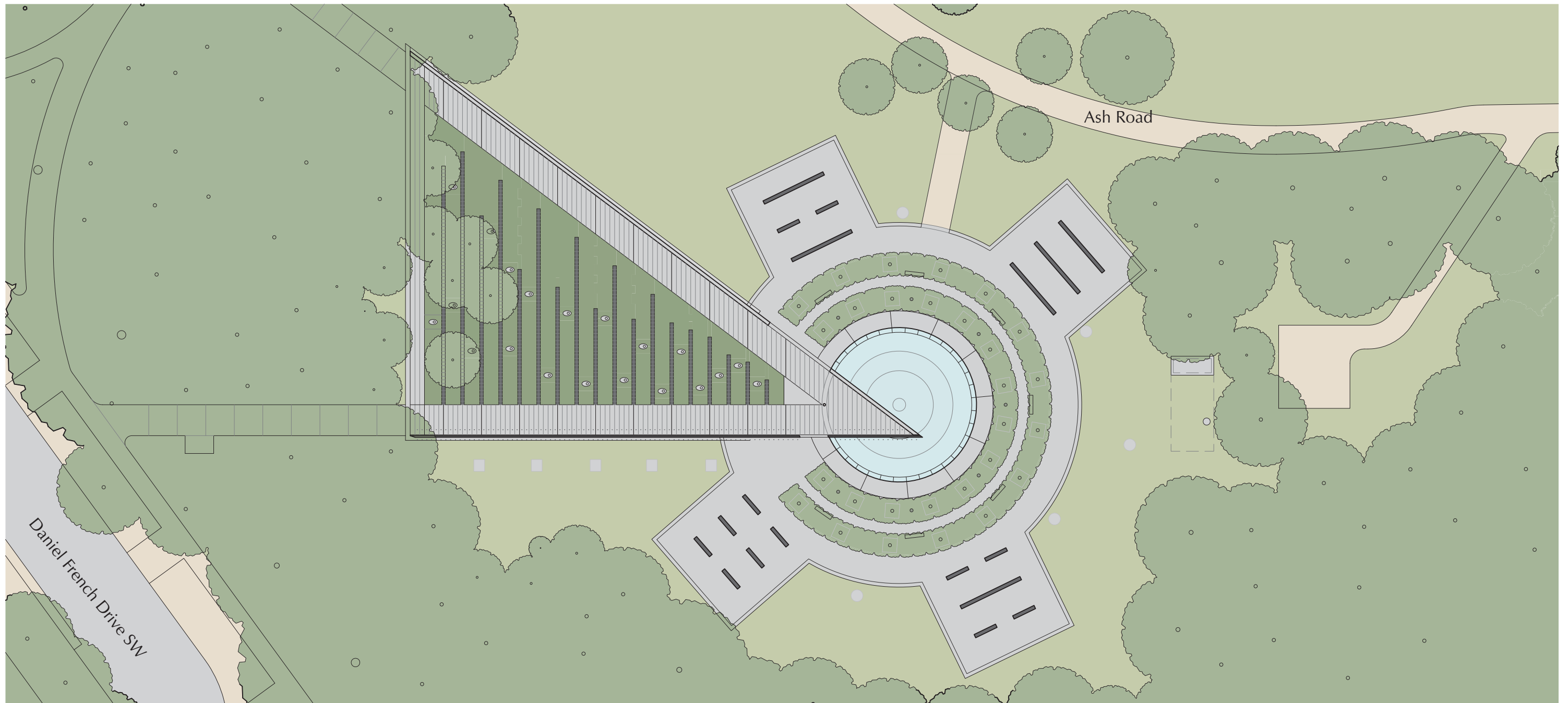


View from Northwest Memorial Entry



View from Ash Road

RENDERED VIEWS OF OPTION C.1



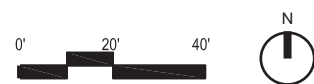
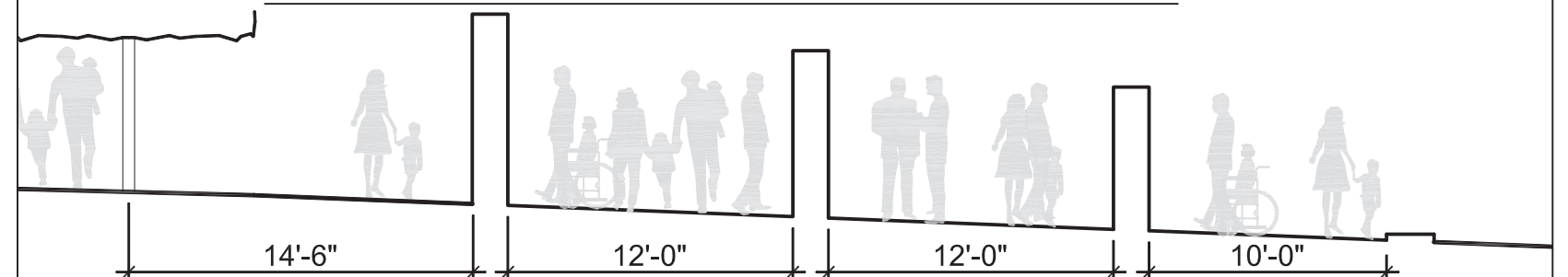
SUMMARY

- Walls in the pattern of the trigrams found on the South Korean flag; text on both sides of wall
- Walls decrease in height (8', 7', 6') as you move further from the Pool of Remembrance
- Additional hardscape: 12,000 sf
- Disadvantage: Strong visual impact could detract from existing memorial

KOREAN FLAG



SECTION THROUGH WALL OF REMEMBRANCE



OPTION D.1 - KOREAN FLAG TRIGRAM PATTERN



Birdseye View Looking West



Birdseye View Looking East



View from Northwest Memorial Entry



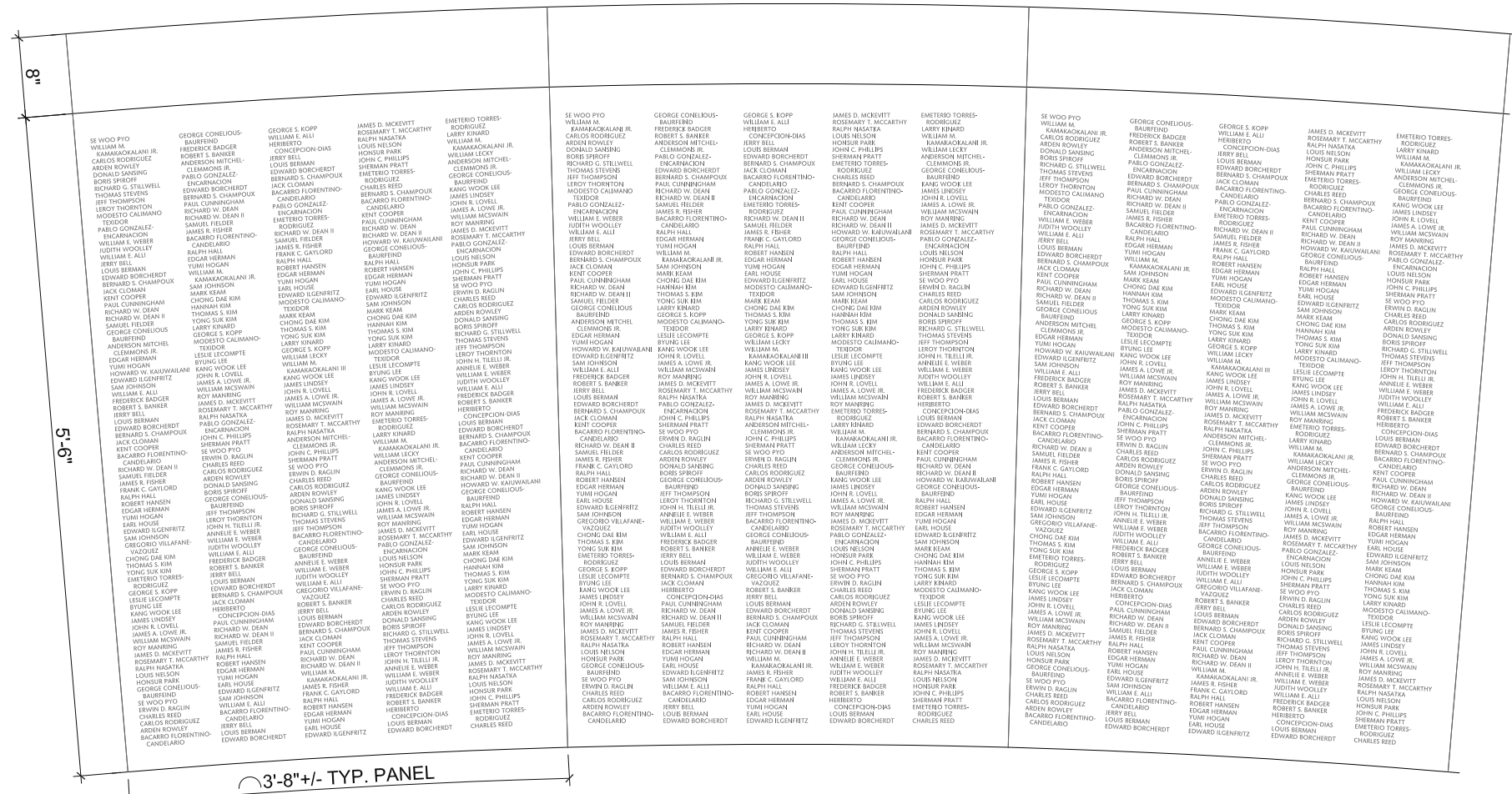
View from Ash Road

RENDERED VIEWS OF OPTION D.1



APPENDIX B

TEXT SURFACE AREA ANALYSIS



Note: This is showing the current design concept. Font selection and layout of names is still pending.

ENLARGED ELEVATION SHOWING LIST OF NAMES

Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance - Surface Area Analysis

1/1/2020

TEXT DESCRIPTION

Vietnam Veterans Memorial (1/2" high letters)*

Korean War Veterans Memorial Options**

Proposed basis of design →

	WALL LENGTH	WALL AREA	TEXT AREA	PERCENTAGE OF TEXT	KATUSA AREA	OTHER AREA
1	7/16" high letters, 5'-0" columns	389'	2,140	1,945	91%	
2	7/16" high letters, 4'-7" columns	435'	2,320	1,994	86%	
3	1/2" high letters, 3'-8" columns	728'	2,912	2,672	92%	
4	5/8" high letters, 5'-6" columns	800'	6,400	4,400	69%	
5	5/8" high letters, 6'-6" columns	676'	5,408	4,394	81%	

*Wall height of Vietnam Veterans Memorial varies.

**All options assume that both US names and Korean Augmentation to the United States Army (KATUSA) names are written out in Roman alphabet letters and integrated with each other. Note that arrangement and grouping of names is conceptual only.

SURFACE AREA ANALYSIS TABULATION

5/16" 7/16"

LOREM N. IPSUM
PETIUM G. VULPITATE
TURPIS I. EGESTAS
MAELESUA R. FAMES

Note: This is showing the current design concept. Font selection and layout of names is still pending.

FULL SIZE EXAMPLE OF TEXT



KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL

WALL OF REMEMBRANCE